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SMALL-TIME LEAGUE DRAWING ATTENTION FROM EUROPEANS WHO PAY OFF PLAYERS PAGE 8

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World talking about TIFF

Reaction. Critics, stars show Toronto the love

Movie lovers, half-finished construction and the Oscar's playground are what TIFF will be remembered for this year.

From movie critics to celebrities, it would appear that so far this year's festival is a great success, with programming celebrated for being both whimsical and intense, most screenings and press events moving like clockwork, and celebrities full of love for this city.

"This is a festival that's full of cinephiles," Joseph Gordon-Levitt said during a press conference for his movie and festival opener Looper. "It doesn't have the air of glitz and glamour as much, and I really like that about it. It's more about the films."

There were a few complaints from Hollywood Reporter's "Rambling Reporter," who lamented the unfinished construction at SoHo House's new permanent location — the bathroom stalls without locks, open ceilings and non-existent air conditioning.

But Roger Ebert chimed in for his festival journal about "state-of-the-art facilities" at the TIFF Bell Lightbox, where the festivities are now run from.

Critics from out of town penned shoutouts to the city, including Variety's Jon Weisman, who said seeing Argo, centred around the real story of how a CIA agent and former Canadian ambassador saved the lives of American delegates during the Iran hostage crisis, was a "serendipitous treat."

Ebert was also quick to predict crowd favourite Argo as the winner for best picture at the upcoming Academy Awards, saying: "Success at Toronto has an uncanny way of predicting Academy winners."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE TIFF COVERAGE, PAGES 34-38

Actress Marisa Tomei does the meet-and-greet at Roy Thomson Hall on Tuesday for the premiere of Inescapable. Tomei stars with Alexander Siddig and Joshua Jackson in the taut thriller about a man whose daughter disappears in Damascus, forcing him to return to the country he left behind more than 30 years ago. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man a victim of mistaken identity

Jamaican immigrant killed last year was thought to be gang member: Police PAGE 3

Crash course in stardom for young actors

Homegrown talent seeking first international break through TIFF program PAGE 4

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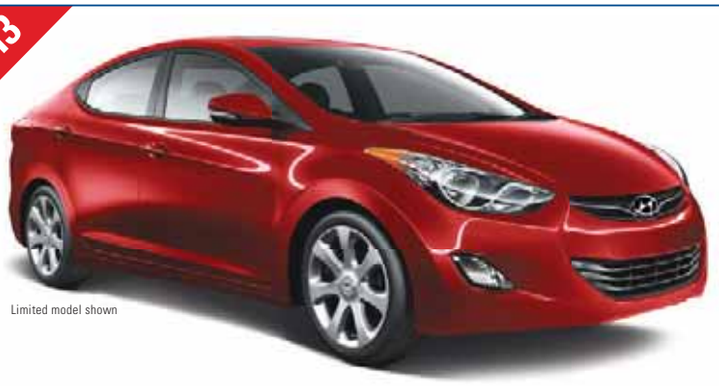

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Killers mistook victim for gang target, police say

December shooting. Police tell media the sad story of the death of D'Mitre Barnaby, hope witnesses find the courage to speak up

JESSICA SMITH
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D'Mitre Barnaby was a recent immigrant to Toronto with no gang connections and an apparent naïveté about some of the dangers of his new city when he was shot dead last December.

Police are calling the killing a case of mistaken identity — Barnaby just looked like the intended target.

"If you see their pictures side by side, it's an amazing resemblance," said Det. Sgt. Brett Nicol at a press conference in the parking lot where he was shot on Tuesday.

The man who looks so much like Barnaby was involved in a struggle for the leadership of the gang, he said.

Police connected the death of Barnaby, a string of shootings and the Danzig Street block party shootout with the Galloway Boys gang and pleaded for witnesses to any of the violence to come forward.

"We've received a lot of information and we have good suspects in this investigation, but ultimately we need witnesses. We need people who are going to take the box and point these guys out in court," he said. "These shooters are small, weak and cowardly, but because of their propensity for violence and their willingness to shoot guns, they've got the community holding back."

Barnaby, 24, emigrated from Jamaica a few months prior to his death and had a girlfriend in the area. On the morning of Dec. 30, 2011, he and a friend were sitting in his car in the parking lot of the apartment building at 3847 Lawrence Ave. E. listening to music when a white Nissan Versa pulled up and circled the car.

According to police, the friend sensed danger and left in his own car. Barnaby didn't leave immediately. The car returned. Barnaby then drove to an adjacent lot on Lawrence Avenue, where parking is free, and got out of his car.

"The two suspects crouch down, brandishing firearms, and they approach Mr. Barnaby and without warning begin to gun him down," said Nicol. "He's shot multiple times. He's pronounced dead at the scene moments later."

Asked why Barnaby didn't flee from the gang members, Nicol responded: "I don't think he expected to be shot or killed.... Like most of us, Mr. Barnaby didn't expect to be gunned down for no reason at all."

Follow Jessica Smith on Twitter @jessiecatherine

Det. Sgt. Peter Trimble shows the media where bullets struck a tree just feet from where the shootings occurred in the Danzig Street complex. Police held two press conferences, both on locations where murders occurred, in an effort to entice the public to come forward with information to help solve the cases. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A screengrab of footage from the location where D'Mitre Barnaby was shot and killed. Suspects are circled. POLICE HANDOUT

Galloway Boys-related shootings

- **The Domino's shooting:** Three males shot in a drive-by in front of the Domino's Pizza on Lawrence Avenue East at Susan Street on Sept. 4, 2011. Police believe the same shooters killed D'Mitre Barnaby.
- **Shooting on Northfield Drive:** A victim was gunned down and seriously injured, but not killed, in his car during a drug deal on Nov. 4, 2011. Police arrested Roman "Angel" Williams on Sept. 10, 2012, and charged him with attempted murder.
- **The Kingston Road drive-by:** Three unknown men were shot at 4315 Kingston Rd., Galloway Boys turf, on Dec. 28. 2011.
- **3827 Lawrence Ave. E. shooting:** Shots were fired in the hallway on Jan. 15, 2012, blood was found, but no victim came forward.
- **4100 Lawrence Ave. E. shooting:** Several shots were fired on Aug. 6. 2012, but no victims were identified.
- **Lawrence LRT shooting:** A man was chased through the LRT station and gunned down against a fence on Aug. 10, 2012. He was identified as an up-and-coming leader of the Galloway Boys.
- **Danzig Street murders:** On July 16, 2012, Shyanne Charles and Joshua Yasay were killed and 23 others were injured when Galloway Boys confronted men from Malvern at a block party.
- **Shooting in Chester Le complex:** On Sept. 2, 2012, a youth was shot — he had also been shot at the Danzig Street shootout. Investigators are looking for a link.

Take Back the Block parties aim to make neighbourhood safer

Stephanie Guthrie, one of the organizers of the Take Back the Block events on Sept. 15. PAWEL DWULIT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In a bid to stop sexual assaults on Toronto streets, city residents are being asked to sit on their porches, hang out in parks and meet their neighbours.

"Every day it seems there's another young woman getting groped at Ryerson or having a man come up on her from behind at Christie Pits Park," said Stephanie Guthrie, one of the organizers of the Take Back the Block events on Sept. 15.

Guthrie said she was alarmed by all of the alerts the Toronto police send out on Twitter when a woman is sexually assaulted, so she and some friends came up with the idea of hosting two big block parties, one at the Ryerson campus and one in Kensington Market, where people will get together outside to meet their neighbours.

On Twitter

- To follow information on the events, follow the Twitter hashtag #TBTB.

The city is safer when there are people outside with their eyes on the street and bystanders are more inclined to help someone who's in trouble if they know their neighbours and feel connected with their community, said Guthrie.

The idea that women should respond to sexual assaults in their neighbourhood by dressing conservatively and avoiding going out alone at night is unfair, she said. "So instead of making individual women be afraid, let's respond as a community."

Take Back the Block's two events will take place immediately after the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre's Take Back the Night march on Saturday, Sept. 15, at Pitman Hall Quad at Ryerson University and Bellevue Square Park in the Kensington Market area.

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

1 NEWS

Mobile news

If the Terminator rode a horse, this would definitely be it. Scan the code to watch the U.S. military's "mechanical horse" make its debut.

On the radio

Proud FM faces signal trouble

Proud FM is sending out shaky signals.

Toronto's commercial gay and lesbian radio station is struggling to survive not because it doesn't have enough listeners (it does), but because its signal can't reach those listeners.

Proud FM claims to be the world's first commercial gay and lesbian radio station. Its offices are in Etobicoke, with one studio in the Gay Village, but its low-power transmitter is at Yonge St. and Eglinton Ave. The radio station's program director, Bob Willette, says the signal has deteriorated as condos and other tall towers have shot up around the area. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayor on the gridiron

Ford ducks out of meeting

As Mayor Rob Ford's powerful executive committee debated policy issues at City Hall on Monday afternoon, Ford plotted strategy — on the sidelines of a pre-season high school football scrimmage in Newmarket.

Ford skipped the last 5.5 hours of the nine-hour committee meeting. Not even his deputy mayor knew where he had gone. He acknowledged Tuesday that he was coaching the Don Bosco Catholic Secondary School Eagles. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayor Rob Ford

Discrimination claim

Group homes bylaw heads to human rights hearing

A divisional court judge has ruled that the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal does have the jurisdiction to hear a landmark case brought against a Toronto bylaw.

Judge Romana Jurankova made the ruling after the city went to court to try to stop the complaint, which was launched by a group of mental health advocates known as the Dream Team.

The group says the city's requirement that group homes be at least 250 metres apart is discriminatory because it limits housing options as well as their integration into communities. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TIFF rising stars tripped up in red-carpet magic

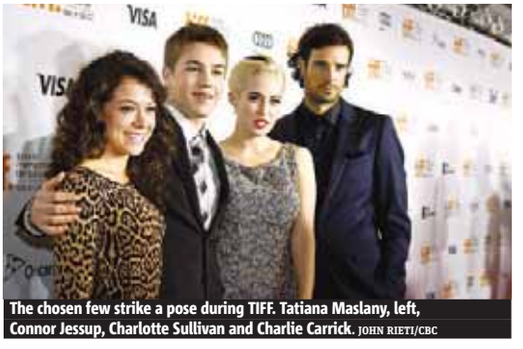
Schmoozing. Up and comers thrust in the limelight in a three-day boot camp to develop careers

PHOEBE HO
toronto@metronews.ca

Toronto's Charlotte Sullivan says she gets the sweats, is nervous, and stumbles when it comes to red-carpet events at TIFF 2012. PHOTO BY JOANNE KLIMASZEWSKI

Star potential

TIFF's rising stars are chosen based on a number of factors, one of which include the amount of "star potential" and international appeal candidates have. The program, in its second year, is all about giving homegrown talent on the cusp of stardom a chance to shine and make their first international break and, of course, helping them network and make connections in the industry.


The chosen few strike a pose during TIFF. Tatiana Maslany, left, Connor Jessup, Charlotte Sullivan and Charlie Carrick. JOHN RIETI/CBC

It's been a whirlwind of a week for the ABC network's Rookie Blue star Charlotte Sullivan, who's spent her last few days serial "speed-dating."

But it's all professional for the happily married star, one of four carefully selected talents of the Toronto International Film Festival's Rising Star program this year. A big part of the program involves putting the rising stars in dozens of meetings with international casting directors, filmmakers, producers and development executives while they're all in town for TIFF.

It's all professional, but that's not to say the Toronto-born actress hasn't got some butterflies in her stomach during her 'dates,' especially when she got to meet her favourite director, and pick up a few tips of the trade from her favourite artist Peaches.

"We got to meet Peaches, she's badass, she's a rock star, she came in to talk about not caring or being devoid of people's opinions and trying and doing things that are bold, that are dangerous and different," she says. "I had an amazing talk with her, just the integrity of being true to yourself."

Sullivan, along with Tatiana Maslany, Connor Jessup and Charlie Carrick, have all spent the last few days thrust in the limelight of TIFF's red carpet events, parties and every media outlet possible in a three-day boot camp to help them develop their careers.

A Genie Award-nominated actress who also played Marilyn Monroe in the Emmy Award-winning series The Kennedys, Sullivan says — despite her experience — it's been a nerve-wracking week.

"The red carpet stuff, I have a lot of anxiety," she says. "It's not something that comes naturally to me. Some people are like, 'This is a chance to show off and have fun,' not for me, I get the sweats, I get nervous, I stumble."

Regina-born Maslany, however, told Metro she couldn't wait to be inundated by the chaos and exhaustion when the boot camp begins.

"What I want to be doing is having an international career, I want to be working in Europe and in the States as well, for me it's exciting to be able to meet people ... directors that I admire that are from elsewhere," she says. "But I think that's what the program is going to open up for me, which is really really exciting."

"It's a really great chance to meet people you might have a fruitful creative relationship with, without the usual barrier," says British-Canadian actor Carrick. "If you meet one or two people that you really jive with and have a similar outlook with, then it's totally worthwhile to form those relationships."

Teachers' union calls for 'pause' in after-school activities

President of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Sam Hammond, left, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation Ken Coran and president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Ontario Fred Hahn speak to the media in Toronto on Tuesday. MICHELLE SIU/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Moments after Queen's Park passed its controversial teachers' wage-freeze bill Tuesday, the largest teachers' union in the country called on its 76,000 members to "take a pause" from after-school activities in protest.

It is not clear how long Sam Hammond, president of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, wants the boycott to last, but he said "given this extraordinary and unwarranted legislation, we are advising our members to 'take a pause' on the voluntary activities they undertake in schools." It notes "this is the initial step in an escalating protest strategy."

Quoted

"Collective bargaining rights are central to ensuring that working people are treated with dignity, respect, and fairness in the workplace. If the premier can get away with abolishing our rights, we need to ask 'who's next?'"

Sam Hammond, president of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

The move throws into question the future of cross-country running, a popular September after-school activities that has begun at many elementary schools already, and football programs underway at high schools, to name just two.

Hammond also called on teachers to start skipping staff meetings on what he dubbed "McGuinty Mondays … for the foreseeable future."

The new law has curbed teachers' collective bargaining rights and forced them to take a two-year pay freeze except for seniority grid movement. It also imposes three unpaid days off in the second year of the contract, cuts the annual number of sick days in half to 10, and ends the banking of sick leave to be cashed out upon retirement. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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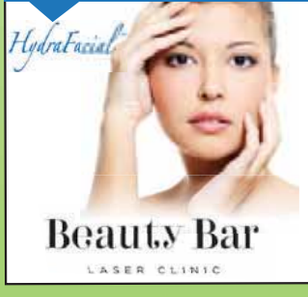

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Even Madonna walks the line for the MDNA tour

Slacklining. Trio of athletes balancing precariously on nylon threads featured in the Material Girl's latest tour

IAN GORMELY
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While all eyes will no doubt be on Madonna at the pair of Toronto stops on her current MDNA tour, fans should also keep their eyes peeled for a trio of athletes tip toeing their way across the stage on threads of nylon.

The singer prominently featured slackliner Andy Lewis during her sprawling Super Bowl halftime show after seeing him on YouTube. And when it came time to choreograph the elaborate stages for her current world tour, she wanted to make sure slacklining, a balance sport similar to tightrope walking, was well represented.

Slackliner Hayden Nickell, a good friend of Lewis, remembers the performance well.

"I was so excited to see slacklining get so much attention," he says. Earlier this year he managed to score one of three slackliner spots on the tour, dropping out of school in Colorado to head to the audition.

His fellow slackliners get a solo performance during Nobody Knows Me, but Nickell, 23, is featured during Hung Up, where Madge herself does a few steps on the line. "She practises every show day," he says.

Madonna hadn't stepped foot on a line until Nickell showed her the ropes during rehearsals in New York. "It was actually really easy and fun," he says, noting that Madonna was a quick learner. "There was no intimidation."

Nickell first witnessed the sport in 2008 while on a rock-climbing trip, watching a guy cross a line between two trees 12 metres above the ground. "It seems like it's so simple," he says. "But it's so challenging. You have to push yourself."

With the tour scheduled to end in December, Nickell remains unsure of his next move. But he describes the opportunity Madonna has given him as "life-changing."

"She shows you that whatever you put your energy into, you can make happen," he says. "It opens the world up to whatever you want."

Yosemite

Slacklining's history

Slacklining traces its origins to Yosemite National Park in California in the late 1970s where rock climbers would rig up chains and lines between trees as a way to practise their balance and develop their muscles. It remained a fringe activity of climbers for years before Gibbons Slacklines commercialized the equipment. "You had to have an immense knowledge or rigging for rock climbing to set it up," says slackliner Hayden Nickell. The sport's since evolved in leaps and bounds over the last five years or so. "The whole concept was walking from one end to another," he says. "Now it's turned into extreme trampolining."

Left: Madonna performs in concert at Yankee Stadium. She brings her MDNA extravaganza to the Air Canada Centre Wednesday and Thursday nights. Right: Slackliner Hayden Nickell scored one of three slackliner spots on the MDNA tour, dropping out of school in Colorado to head to the audition. MADONNA: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NICKELL: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lineup for We Day to include Al Gore, Martin Sheen

Nelly Furtado is scheduled to perform as part of Toronto We Day 2012.
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto's We Day, an annual event that celebrates youth activism, will have some high-profile speakers and performers again this year including Roméo Dallaire, Nelly Furtado, Al Gore, Jennifer Hudson and Martin Sheen.

The charity Free the Children hosts the free event featuring activists and politicians in cities across Canada, asking that the youth who attend take action on at least one local and one global issue through Free The Children's year-long programs.

"The energy at a We Day is indescribable," said singer Shawn Desman, who is also scheduled to perform.

"By far, my most favourite part of We Day is the kids, and seeing how excited and motivated they are to get involved and make the world a better place. It's infectious, and makes me want to do everything I can to help."

METRO

For more local news visit metronews.ca

Famous faces

We Day Toronto will be on Friday, Sept. 28 at the Air Canada Centre and will feature many prominent individuals including:

- A performance by ONE DROP, a Cirque du Soleil Founder's initiative.
- The Honourable Roméo A. Dallaire, an author and retired lieutenant-general.
- Shawn Desman, a platinum selling, Juno Award-winning, Canadian pop icon and producer.
- Hedley, multi-platinum, Juno and MMVA Award-winning recording artists.
- Justin Trudeau, Canadian politician and activist.
- The Tenors, a Canadian multi-platinum vocal group.

Indie 88.1

New indie radio station dialled in to Canadian music

Toronto's newest radio station revealed Tuesday, Indie 88.1, will be an incredible boost to emerging Canadian talent and an audio gathering nook for those with inquisitive and discerning ears, says the channel's boss.

The Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) stated Tuesday that it granted a licence to Barrie's Rock 95 Broadcasting to replace Ryerson University's old campus station CKLN on the 88.1 FM frequency. Dave Carr, operations manager for Rock 95, said the new English-language music channel will focus on independent and emerging artists.

"It's explosive ... it's going to be incredible," says Carr. "Our mission is to give Canadian indie musicians and their hundreds of thousands of fans their own place on the Toronto FM radio dial. Indie artists are the industry stars of tomorrow and Indie 88.1 will simply help tomorrow come sooner."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Survey feedback

Bike licensing panned as impractical and punitive

A survey published by Torstar News Service on Tuesday showing growing support for licensing cyclists was panned by many in the cycling community.

"Bad poll. Wrong message. Bike licensing doesn't work. Police have powers of enforcement. Go w(ith) education instead," tweeted Cycle Toronto.

One of the questions asked in the Forum Research survey was: "Do you approve or disapprove of licensing bicyclists so that traffic laws can be enforced with them?"

Of the 834 respondents, 65 per cent approved. But the question didn't make much sense to some people who pointed out that cyclists are already subject to the Highway Traffic Act.

While the act does apply to cyclists, police Chief Bill Blair told the police services board in 2011 that licensing would "create a certain accountability that would assist us in enforcement."

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The fix is in: Canadian soccer league infiltrated by crime

A small crowd assembles for the CSL championship match at Toronto's BMO Field between the Trois-Rivières Attak and Serbian White Eagles on Oct. 24, 2009. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Fans chant during a Toronto Croatia match in North Toronto in 2007.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

The Trois-Rivières Attak's Serge Dinkota shoots past Serbian White Eagles keeper Dan Pelc during the CSL championship match in October 2009.
RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Canadian Soccer League. Metro editor working with CBC threatened at Toronto home while investigating match-fixing ring

BEN RYCROFT
toronto@metronews.ca

You could be forgiven if you've never heard of the Canadian Soccer League.

Save for a sprinkling of fans that attend games and watch the occasional screening on Rogers TV, few will have ever heard of the small, backwater league fielding teams in Ontario and Quebec.

Yet, online betting sites offer lines on every CSL game which has attracted European match-fixers looking for an easy target.

In an investigation I worked on with the CBC, we discovered that match-fixers have travelled thousands of kilometres to pay Canadian players to fix results in their favour. Our domestic league has been powerless, unwilling or unable to stop it. And this match-fixing syndicate has tried to infiltrate the league to a point that few would have imagined. The results of the investigation will be shown tonight on The National at 10 p.m. and will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

This investigation stemmed from a German court case last year where the main defendants, Ante Sapina and Mario Cvrtak, admitted to fixing a Canadian Soccer League (CSL) game on Sept. 12, 2009. That game involved a game between the Toronto Croatia and the Trois-Rivières Attak — at the time, a farm team for the Montreal Impact.

Since the day I brought CBC this story 18 months ago, a lot has happened.

I have had people come to my home with death threats, moved my family to ensure their safety and struggled with the stress that comes with learning to live while looking over your shoulder. When I realized why those two men had threatened me, it made the pit of my stomach drop out at the thought of how close they had been to me. They waited outside my building to let me know that the questions I was asking around the CSL were not ones they approved of — but they mostly did it to send a message.

Others too have received that message. Witnesses to the fixing have come forward, only to drop away with no notice. Players, coaches and entire teams have walked away from the game they love because of the stink that comes from these types of allegations.

Tonight's documentary will walk viewers through how the fixing occurs. It will show why this group and others like it are targeting the CSL. And it will show just how easy it is to manipulate a game for money.

In the grand scheme of things, Canadian soccer is still very much in its infancy. The Canadian Soccer Association may be celebrating its centenary this year but it's really only come into its own in the last 10 years when local soccer has become a priority to fans in this country.

With that new-found love comes with it a level of naiveté — a sense that the ills that have plagued the world could never come here.

And if Canadians are finally catching on to this game that the rest of the world calls football, they're also about to get a harsh wake-up call to the realities that come with it.

Read tomorrow's Metro for more details.

By the numbers

16

Number of teams in the Canadian Soccer League.

National participation

3.1M

FIFA estimates that 3.1 million Canadians, adults and youths, regularly play organized soccer in Canada.

Inaugural season

2006

Year the current incarnation of the Canadian Soccer League was formed.

From CSL to MLS

- **Toronto.** Major League Soccer's Toronto FC has seven players on its senior squad that have played their way up through the CSL. Oscar Cordon, Doniel Henry, Nicholas Lindsay, Keith Makubuya, Ashtone Morgan, Quillan Roberts and Matt Stinson all began their road to the pros with Toronto FC Academy which plays in the CSL.

Gambling

Small league prompting big-time bets

The CSL provides a lucrative playground for online gambling. ISTOCK

Each week, 10 of the biggest online betting sites offer lines on every Canadian Soccer League game.

Bookmakers will take bets up to and during the game. With no way to watch the games online, betting houses send what are called 'runners' to each CSL game to report the game live by cellphone. This is designed to prevent betters and fixers from adding bets throughout the game before the bookmakers can change their odds.

What the runner and betting houses do is all perfectly legal and it's part of the billion dollar global online gambling industry. BEN RYCROFT/METRO

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Joshua Gordon

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Cuban president urged to release imprisoned American

Maryland native. Man's conditions of confinement are difficult for him, lawyer says

The wife of imprisoned American Alan Gross said Tuesday she has returned from a trip to Cuba to see her husband, and is fearful he will not survive his long incarceration.

Judy Gross said her husband has developed a mass behind his right shoulder blade, and suffers from degenerative arthritis and other ailments. The mass is not believed to be cancerous.

The 63-year-old Maryland native, who was obese at the time of his arrest in December 2009, has lost 105 pounds while in custody and now appears gaunt in photos released from the Havana military hospital where he is being held.

"I am devastated by his appearance," Judy Gross wrote in the statement following her return to the United States. "While his spirit remains strong, I fear he is not going to survive this terrible ordeal."

She begged Cuban President Raul Castro to "put an end to our anguish and let Alan come home."

There was no immediate reaction from Cuba's government to Judy Gross's plea.

Gross's lawyer, Jared Genser, told The Associated Press that Judy Gross arrived in Cuba on Sept. 5 and was allowed to visit her husband on four days, three at the military hospital and once at a guarded home near the capital.

He said there is no sign that Gross is being ill-treated. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Background

Gross's purpose questioned

Gross was on a USAID-funded democracy-building program when he was arrested at Havana's Jose Marti airport. He says he was only trying to provide Internet service to the island's small Jewish community.

Cuba says the multimillion-dollar programs are a veiled attempt by Washington to undermine the government, and has noted that Gross was carrying sophisticated communications equipment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong's Occupy movement reaches its bitter end

One of the longest-running Occupy sites worldwide is cleared in Hong Kong, Tuesday. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Occupy : Hong Kong

Court order clears campsite

Protesters sat inside tents as bailiffs removed them from the Asian headquarters of HSBC in Hong Kong, Tuesday. One of the global Occupy movement's longest-running encampments came to an end as bailiffs cleared out anti-capitalist activists and their belongings from the site by late afternoon. They had spent the day in scuffles with bailiffs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Forceful dismissal

Activists dragged away one by one

The bailiffs pushed and shoved the activists, who had ignored the order requiring them to leave the site by Aug. 27. Some were carried away forcibly and taken outside a perimeter, where they were let go. As nightfall neared, a handful of them clung to two sofas, all that was left of a camp that had included a dozen tents, tables, bookcases, gas cookers and lamps. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some activists were forcibly carried away from the HSBC building in Hong Kong, Tuesday. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lay of the land

The land under the HSBC building where the Occupy activists were living is owned by the bank but legally designated a public passageway.

- **Hong Kong group.** Numbered more than 100 at its peak, it has outlasted other Occupy encampments around the world.
- **Globally occupied.** The movement is generally thought to have begun Sept. 17 2011 worldwide.

Key date

Oct. 15

Hong Kong's Occupy movement started camping out under the HSBC building on Oct. 15, 2011, when protesters in the Asian financial centre joined others around the world in a day of demonstrations against corporate excess and economic inequality.

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808 York Mills Rd., Unit 15-17
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2900 Warden Ave.
130 King St. W. Unit CW15
3401 Dufferin St., Unit 108
1 Yorkdale Rd., Unit 180
1 Dundas St. W, Unit 2010
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Thousands gather across U.S. to honour 9-11 victims

11 years later. Memorials at three crash sites scaled back after 10-year mark, making experiences more personal

Americans marked the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on a crisp, sunny day much like the one 11 years ago when nearly 3,000 victims were killed in the worst terror attack in U.S. history.

The commemoration was smaller and more subdued, a reflection of the nation moving on after a decade of remembrance.

Hundreds gathered at the World Trade Center site in New York, the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pa., to read the names of the dead.

"Our country is safer, and our people are resilient," President Barack Obama said in a ceremony at the White House. He and first lady Michelle Obama laid a wreath at the Pentagon, above a concrete slab that said "Sept. 11, 2001 — 937 am."

They later visited the graves of recent war dead from Afghanistan and Iraq at Arlington National Cemetery. The U.S. military death toll years ago surpassed the 9-11 victim count.

Some said last year's 10th anniversary was a turning point for public mourning. For the first time, elected officials weren't speaking at the New York ceremony.

"I feel much more relaxed" this year, said Jane Pollicino, who came to remember her husband.

Thousands had attended the ceremony in New York in previous years. This time, the crowd reached about 1,000 by late Tuesday morning. A few hundred attended ceremonies at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania.

Allied military forces marked the anniversary at a short ceremony at NATO's headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman mourns on the wall engraved with the names of victims during observances at the National September 11 Memorial in New York on Tuesday. CRAIG RUTTLE/NEWSDAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rights violation?

Surveillance program up for renewal

The Obama administration maintains it is unable to say how many times one of the government's most politically sensitive anti-terrorism surveillance programs — which is up for renewal this week in Congress — has inadvertently gathered intelligence about U.S. citizens.

The administration is seeking renewal of the program, however, and defends its value.

In a briefing for reporters on the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the general counsel for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said Tuesday that the program designed to monitor international communications by terrorist suspects has collected an extraordinary amount of valuable intelligence overseas about foreign terrorist suspects while simultaneously protecting civil liberties of Americans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama, Michelle Obama and members of the White House staff pause during a moment of silence to mark the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Presidential race. Obama, Romney put politics on hold to attend memorials

President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney are muting the partisan rancour that has marked their race for the White House, giving Americans a day off from negative advertising and cutting politics on the 11th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

With the Nov. 6 election less than two months away, however, neither candidate was staying out of sight. Obama observed a moment of silence at the White House before visiting the Pentagon, the target of one of four planes al-Qaida hijacked 11 years ago

At the U.S. defence headquarters, one of the Sept. 11 targets, a moment of silence began at precisely 9:37 a.m., when the Pentagon was hit.

Obama stood with his arms folded and head bowed as a bugler played taps, then raised his hand to his heart as taps concluded.

At the time of the sombre White House observance, Romney was shaking hands with firefighters at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, their yellow trucks forming a backdrop that recalled the sacrifice of first responders to the attacks. The Republican nominee was flying to Nevada to address the National Guard, whose members deployed as part of the military response.

In a dramatic turn-around from the two previous presidential elections after the 2001 attacks, the race this year has been dominated by the economy rather than national security concerns.

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Handcuffs and chains highlight chiefs' protest

First Nations anger. Northern communities want more Mounties and band constables on the reserves

An unidentified man is handcuffed and chained in this handout photo from Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak. The group represents 30 northern Manitoba First Nations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man, handcuffed and chained, lies on a cold concrete floor …

This photo, circulated Tuesday, is the focus of an angry complaint by a group of northern Manitoba chiefs.

They say some aboriginals are being chained up in a hockey arena dressing room instead of an RCMP holding cell because of scarce police resources.

"When you look at all these little (non-aboriginal) towns coming down the highway, there are police stations in every town, but when you look at First Nations communities ... (you'll) see nothing at all," said David Harper, grand chief of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, which represents 30 northern communities.

Harper and other chiefs say the handcuff-and-chains photo is of a man arrested for an alcohol offence last month on the Northlands Denesuline reserve near Lac Brochet.

The man was held in the community's arena because Mounties, who are based in another community, have refused to let band members use the RCMP's local detention facility.

Still waiting

Manitoba Justice Minister Andrew Swan says he has pressed the issue with the federal government, but has yet to get an answer.

"They're more concerned about liability than safety," said Northlands Chief Joe Antsanen. The leaders say the Manitoba government appears to be uninterested in licensing any more band constables.

Walter Spence, chief of the Fox Lake Cree Nation, said his community no longer has any band constables and must rely on RCMP officers 50 kilometres away in Gillam.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Honoured. U.S. body hails Harper as World Statesman of the Year

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is being hailed as World Statesman of the Year by an American organization.

The Appeal of Conscience Foundation previously feted Jean Chrétien and Britain's Gordon Brown.

The Prime Minister's Office says Harper will travel to New York on Sept. 27 to receive the award.

Harper, says the organization, will be recognized as a "champion of democracy, freedom and human rights".

The foundation was founded in 1965 by Rabbi Arthur Schneier. Its board includes former U.S. president Bill Clinton and former U.S. secretaries of state Madeleine Albright, James Baker and George Shultz.

The event takes place the week the United Nations 67th general assembly convenes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The organization

The Appeal of Conscience Foundation describes itself as an "interfaith coalition of business and religious leaders (that) promotes peace, tolerance and ethnic conflict resolution."

War of 1812

'Forgotten' battle gets a monument

The Harper government wants to commemorate the War of 1812 in stone.

It is asking artists who want to design a national monument to step forward with their qualifications.

The National Capital Commission and Heritage Canada issued the call for artists and say the 1812 monument will be placed on Parliament Hill.

A recent poll showed that despite $28 million in commemorative activities, many Canadians have only a foggy knowledge of the war. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fast downloads.

Fast uploads.

An ‘L’ of a storm! Leslie topples trees, cuts power, cancels flights

Newfoundland’s day of agony. Ferocious winds and rain cause havoc ... but then spark sighs of relief as storm moves out to sea

A firefighter shields his face against high winds in St. John’s after checking on the driver of a tractor trailer that was blown over.
KEITH GOSSE/ST. JOHN’S TELEGRAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leslie has left the Rock — thankfully.

The post-tropical storm moved out to sea Tuesday afternoon, hours after its ferocious winds and heavy rains pummelled Newfoundland, knocking out power to thousands and forcing the cancellation of all flights at the island’s main airport.

Leslie’s hurricane-force winds tore apart roofs in St. John’s, stripped off siding, toppled trees and snapped power lines as it doused the island’s west coast with rain.

Holly Walsh said the force of the wind blew her down at Cape Spear, as it ripped the doors off three cars. “It’s pretty intense,” Walsh said.

Police urged residents to stay indoors to avoid flying tree branches and other debris. There were no immediate reports of serious injuries.

Meteorologist Bob Robichaud said Leslie blew through St. John’s with winds of more than 130 km/h,

Forecasters said Leslie was a tropical storm when it made landfall, but later said it was a post-tropical storm.

There were hurricane-force gusts at the St. John’s International Airport, and a buoy in Placentia Bay recorded waves exceeding 12 metres. Sirens wailed in downtown St. John’s as emergency crews responded to exploding power transformers,

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Strikers struck

‘Interesting’ day on the picket line

Striking airport workers who briefly picketed outside braved powerful wind blasts that lifted a port-a-potty tied down with a rope.

“This is my first time taking strike action and I guess the weather just makes it a little more interesting,” said Steve Piercey, a building maintenance worker. “We’re used to weather like this … This is par for the course, being a Newfoundlander. We’re tough.”

Inside the airport, stranded passengers gazed up at electronic boards red with cancellations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Toronto man's attack on bullying breaks the bank

Hefty payoff.
Hundreds of thousands of dollars rewarded to harassed bus monitor

A Toronto man's campaign to give an American grandmother a vacation from a workplace in which she was tyrannized by teenage bullies ended Tuesday with the retired school-bus monitor receiving a cheque for $703,000.

Karen Klein, 68, of Greece, N.Y., was in Toronto for the ceremony.

The funds were presented by Max Sidorov, a 25-year-old nutritionist who felt compelled to help Klein after watching a video of her fielding profane taunts and outright threats from a group of middle-school students during a bus run last June. The cellphone video posted online by a fellow student drew millions of viewers. The video shows Klein trying her best to ignore the boys' insults.

Bus monitor Karen Klein
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One student is heard taunting: "You don't have a family because they all killed themselves because they don't want to be near you." Klein's oldest son killed himself 10 years ago.

Eventually, Klein appears to break down in tears.

The video and what began as a simple campaign to send Klein on holiday brought about much more permanent change, said Sidorov.

"Now her vacation is going to be the full-time vacation of retirement," he said in a telephone interview.

Klein, who had been a bus driver for 20 years before becoming a bus aide for the Greece Athena Middle School, intends to spend at least some of her newly gotten gains on travel, Sidorov said.

She has already celebrated her changed circumstances with trips to Disney World, New York and Boston.

The video of her ordeal touched off an overwhelming outpouring of support.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homecoming from the Arabian Sea

Master Cpl. Rob House is united with his daughters, five-year-old Olivia, left, and two-year-old Lauren at the Halifax Dockyards on Tuesday morning. HMCS Charlottetown returned home after a nine-month deployment in the Arabian Sea. JEFF HARPER/METRO IN HALIFAX

Closing Iranian embassy 'unwise,' says former diplomat

An ousted Iranian diplomat is taking a parting swipe at Canada over its severing of diplomatic ties.

A statement attributed to the former charge d'affaires at the shuttered Iranian embassy was emailed to the CBC.

Kambiz Sheikh-Hassani says that the decision to close the embassy is unwise, uncivilized and hostile.

He says the move goes against traditional Canadian culture and etiquette.

The government of Iran is now looking for alternatives for providing consular services to Iranians in Canada.

The Conservative government declared last Friday it was ejecting Iranian diplomats from Ottawa and bringing Canadian representatives home.

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New intelligence. Iran advancing in attempt to obtain nuclear weapons

The UN atomic agency has received new and significant intelligence over the past month that Iran has moved further toward the ability to build a nuclear weapon, diplomats say.

The intelligence shows that Iran has advanced its work on calculating the destructive power of an atomic warhead through a series of computer models that it ran sometime within the past three years.

The diplomats say the information comes from Israel, the United States and at least two other Western countries and concludes that the work was done sometime within the past three years.

The time-frame is significant because if the International Atomic Energy Agency decides that the intelligence is credible, it would strengthen its concerns that Iran has continued weapons work into the recent past — and may be continuing to do so.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu engaged this week in a strident exchange with the U.S., calling on Sunday for "red lines" to be set for Iran. The calls were rebuffed, and on Tuesday, Netanyahu declared that those who refuse to draw a red line "don't have a right to place a red light before Israel."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tinderbox

The comments from Netanyahu were the latest suggestion that Israel is considering taking military action on its own to at least slow down Iran's program.

- That prospect could badly rattle world markets and spark wider war, and is opposed not only in most Western capitals but also among many in Israel's security and political establishment.
- But Israel says that with Iran moving facilities underground its window of opportunity is closing while the world dithers with inadequate sanctions.

U.S. embassy in Cairo breached by radicals

Egyptian protesters climb the walls of the U.S. embassy in Cairo leaving behind Arabic graffiti during a protest in Cairo on Tuesday. The protesters, largely ultra conservative Islamists, climbed the walls of the embassy, went into the courtyard and brought down the U.S. flag, replacing it with a black flag with an Islamic inscription, in protest of a film deemed offensive of Islam. NASSER NASSER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arab Spring

U.S. still supports recovering looted money, Obama says

U.S. President Barack Obama reaffirmed American support Tuesday for Arab Spring nations seeking to recover billions of dollars in assets stashed away by members of toppled regimes.

But one of Obama's senior advisers noted that international legal obstacles still remain in tracking down and reclaiming looted money.

"This money ... does not belong to those who wielded power. It belongs to the people," Obama said in a video.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Insider's account

SEAL writer could be punished

U.S. Defence Secretary Leon Panetta is suggesting that a retired Navy SEAL be punished for writing a book giving an insider's account of the raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

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Woman denies killing man with silicone penis injection

New Jersey. There's no medical justification for procedure: Doctor

A New Jersey woman pleaded not guilty Tuesday to causing a man's death with an injection of silicone he hoped would enlarge his penis, a procedure experts cautioned doesn't work.

Kasia Rivera, 35, could face up to 10 years in prison if convicted of reckless manslaughter in the death of Justin Street, 22.

Street, a father of two, had gone to Rivera on May 5 seeking a penile-enlargement procedure, which prosecutors say Rivera advertised for in fliers posted at local businesses. Rivera, who performed the procedures in her apartment, allegedly with no medical licence or training, administered a silicone shot to Street's penis, according to prosecutors.

Street died the next day. His death was ruled a homicide following an investigation and a medical examiner's determination that he died of a silicone embolism. Rivera was indicted by a grand jury last month.

Investigators believe Rivera may have conducted other similar unauthorized procedures out of her East Orange, N.J., apartment, but prosecutors said a public plea for people to step forward had not yielded any other clients to date.

Rivera, who remains free on $75,000 US bail, declined to comment through her court-appointed attorney Tuesday.

Dr. Daniel S. Elliott, an associate professor of urology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., said penis enlargement doesn't work.

"If there were a legitimate method for penile lengthening, Johnson & Johnson or Pfizer would have bought it up and made billions and billions of dollars worldwide," Elliott said. "The fact that they don't means it does not exist."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philly case

Enhancement clients tend to be women: Expert

Enhancement procedures performed by unlicensed practitioners or people with no medical training are more commonly seen among women, Elliott said.

Liquid silicone is sought on the black market by women seeking to enhance their figures, even though it is not approved for cosmetic injections.

In February 2011, Claudia Aderotimi, 20, of London died after receiving cosmetic injections to enlarge her buttocks at a hotel in Philadelphia. Following the procedure she had chest pain and difficulty breathing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this 2011 file photo, a police van pulls away from a Hampton Inn in Philadelphia. A London woman died after receiving cosmetic injections to enlarge her buttocks at the hotel last February. MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mammoth find in Siberia raises cloning hopes

Extinct. Prehistoric woolly mammoths are thought to have died out around 10,000 years ago

Scientists have discovered well-preserved frozen woolly mammoth fragments deep in Siberia that may contain living cells, edging a tad closer to the "Jurassic Park" possibility of cloning a prehistoric animal, the mission's organizer said Tuesday.

Russia's North-Eastern Federal University said an international team of researchers had discovered mammoth hair, soft tissues and bone marrow 100 metres underground during a summer expedition in the north-eastern province of Yakutia.

Expedition chief Semyon Grigoryev said Korean scientists with the team had set a goal of finding living cells in the hope of cloning a mammoth. Scientists have previously found bones and fragments but not living cells.

A sculpture of mammoths in the Siberian town of Khanty-Mansiisk.
DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grigoryev told the online newspaper Vzglyad it would take months of research to determine whether they have indeed found the cells.

"Only after thorough laboratory research it will be known whether these are living cells or not," he said, adding that would take until the end of the year at the earliest.

Scientists think small groups of woolly mammoths lived longer in Alaska and on Russia's Wrangel Island off the Siberian coast.

Scientists already have deciphered much of the genetic code of the woolly mammoth from balls of mammoth hair found frozen in the Siberian permafrost. Some believe it's possible to recreate the prehistoric animal if they find living cells in the permafrost.

Those who succeed in recreating an extinct animal could claim a "Jurassic Park prize," the concept of which is being developed by the X Prize Foundation that awarded a 2004 prize for the first private spacecraft.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spaniards carry on gory tradition

Men on horses and armed with spears take part in the Toro de la Vega bull-spearing fiesta in Tordesillas, near Valladolid, Spain on Tuesday. The festival is one of the oldest in Spain with roots dating back to the 15th century. The bull has to be enticed across the river from the village to the plain before it can be killed to honour the Virgen de la Pena. ISRAEL LOPEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cancer scare

New Delhi bans chewing tobacco

Authorities in India's capital New Delhi have decided to ban chewing tobacco in response to a surge in mouth and throat cancer. It is already banned in eight of the country's 28 states.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Basket case

Trapped workers rappel to safety

Two Norwegian electricians trapped for an entire day in a basket hanging 85 metres above a fjord successfully rappelled down to a boat waiting below, rescue workers said Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian roulette?

Bill aimed at stifling protests

Russia's lower house has given preliminary approval to a restrictive bill brought in response to protests against President Vladimir Putin that would fine foreign-funded groups if they fail to comply.

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Fleeing worker

'We didn't want to die there,' woman says

Glemer Cabidog was also among the nearly 300 Filipino workers who fled Syria on Tuesday.

"If it were not for the war, I would not have returned home," said Cabidog, 34, who was a caretaker of a villa in Damascus for a wealthy Kuwaiti businessman who had fled the war. "We asked permission from our employer but after three months ... he said he won't allow us to leave, that's why we escaped."

Cabidog, who was paid $200 a month, said she and another Filipino worker at the villa decided to leave after a clash two weeks ago between Syrian forces and demonstrators in their neighbourhood.

"That was when we decided to leave," she said. "We didn't want to die there." She said they made arrangements with the Philippine Embassy to pick them up a week later.

Migrants return from Syria with tales of horror

The Philippines. Women who worked as maids and babysitters fled civil war after countries agree to repatriation

Quoted

"His chest was opened like there was large steel that passed through it. Do you know that we buried him at the back of the house because there were no more cemeteries?"

Ruth Pana, 29

Filipino Ruth Pana remembered the windows of her employer's house in Damascus riddled with bullets. The maid, who escaped first to the Philippine Embassy in the Syrian capital and then to Manila aboard an evacuation flight Tuesday, also remembered one of the sons of her Syrian employer being killed by government forces.

"His chest was opened like there was large steel that passed through it," she said, sobbing. "Do you know that we buried him at the back of the house because there were no more cemeteries?"

Pana was among nearly 300 Filipino workers — young women who escaped unemployment at home for jobs abroad as maids and babysitters — who fled the worsening civil war in the biggest single repatriation negotiated between the Philippines and Syria.

They were flown to Manila by the International Organization of Migration and brought with them the tales of horror and sleepless nights as violence between government forces and rebels fighting to overthrow the regime of president Bashar Assad spiraled out of control.

Pana, 29, said the man she worked for was supportive of the opposition and his son was killed during a recent demonstration. After the family's house where she lived and worked was shattered by bullets, they all fled to a neighbour's basement to escape being caught in the crossfire between government troops and the rebel Free Syrian forces.

She said she liked her employer and had worked for him and his family for three years until 2010, and then returned just months before the fighting erupted in March 2011.

Pana said a military camp behind her employer's residence was occupied by the rebels but the military launched a counter-attack and bombardment last week using helicopters.

"If you could just see the bodies, oh brother, you would be throwing up," she said in an interview. She said when her employer and his family moved to a rented house, she made contact with the Philippine Embassy, which sent a car that took her away to the care of Filipino diplomats until she and the others were repatriated.

Pana said her employer initially didn't want her to leave, saying she was still under contract, but then relented.

The 263 Filipinos who returned home, many shedding tears of joy, had sought refuge at the embassy compound until Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario travelled to Syria last week to organize their evacuation.

"I was scared and I really wanted to go home. Now that I am home, I am very happy," said Sasulaya Abdula.

Some of the women were crying and were comforted by others as they waited for their papers to be processed by officers from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, a government agency in charge of nearly 10 million Filipinos who work overseas.

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Overseas Filipino workers who fled the civil war who worked as babysitters and maids in Syria, s

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in Syria wave Syrian and Philippine flags upon arriving at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila, Tuesday. The nearly 300 workers, all of them young women aid they were scared for their safety and sought shelter at the Philippine Embassy in Damascus until their repatriation Tuesday. BULLIT MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jordan. Angelina Jolie hears 'heartbreaking' stories at refugee camp

Her eyes welling up with tears, actress Angelina Jolie said she heard "horrific" and "heartbreaking" accounts from Syrian refugees she met Tuesday during a visit to a camp in Jordan that has provided shelter for those fleeing the civil war in the neighbouring country.

The Hollywood star, who is also the UN refugee agency's special envoy, spoke after meeting a group of women refugees at the Zaatari camp, which hosts about 30,000 Syrians displaced by the 18-month conflict.

"I am very concerned, the world is very concerned," Jolie said during a high-profile visit UN refugee agency's special envoy aimed at focusing international attention on the plight of Syrian refugees and attracting more funding to help them. "What is very heartbreaking is when Syrian people ask you why you think no one is able to find a solution for them."

Jolie met separately with the Syrian refugee women as UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres and Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh toured the sprawling tent city. She also went to the border late Monday and met with Syrian refugees as they crossed into Jordan.

"What they described on the ground, hearing it from them is so horrific," she said, adding that the children's stories were especially moving, including some who said they had witnessed people being pulled apart "like chickens."

"When you meet so many innocent people and civilians, the people of Syria are asking who is on their side. 'Who is going to help us as the months go on?" she added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angelina Jolie speaking at the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan Tuesday.
MOHAMMAD HANNON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Beating. Boy still in critical condition

A 24-year-old man is facing an attempted murder charge after a boy was found suffering from severe trauma at a London, Ont., centre for children with developmental problems.

Police say the 12-year-old remains in critical condition in hospital after officers were called to the Child and Parent Resource Institute on Sunday.

Police say Gregory Thomas Simard — a full-time contract employee at the facility who had "regular contact" with the boy — was arrested Monday.

Simard is charged with attempted murder, uttering threats, forcible confinement and a charge of assaulting police resulting from an incident police allege occurred while Simard was in custody.

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Man survives day in Alaskan sea in plastic bin

Rescue. Fisherman suffered blistered hands from clutching bin after boat sank

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter hovers near Ryan Harris as he tries to stay upright in a fish bin. JOEL BRADY-POWER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A fisherman who spent a night adrift in a four-by-four-foot plastic fish bin after his boat sank off Alaska says he gave himself pep talks and sang Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer and Row, Row, Row Your Boat to keep his spirits up.

His fellow crew member, Stonie (Mac) Huffman, managed to get into a survival suit and washed ashore on a beach after his own night afloat.

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter hoisted Ryan Harris, 19, of Sitka, from his plastic "lifeboat" on Saturday, more than 24 hours after the boat sank, the Daily Sitka Sentinel reported Monday.

"It's truly a miracle they survived," said Sitka Mountain Rescue director Don Kluting.

The two men were fishing when the hydraulics failed on their boat. They fixed that problem but encountered waves, one of which tipped the boat onto its side.

Aside from the survival suit that Huffman found, the two also managed to grab some empty fish totes that had washed loose. Eight-foot waves soon separated the men.

"I gave myself a pep talk," Harris said. He kept repeating for four hours: "I'm Ryan Hunter Harris and I'm not going to die here." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Presidential bear hug proves bad for business

President Barack Obama is lifted off the ground by Scott Van Duzer, owner of Big Apple Pizza and Pasta Italian Restaurant on Sunday in Ft. Pierce, Fla.

PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Political pizza. Florida restaurant owner is dubbed a 'traitor' and 'socialist' after photo op

The Big Apple Pizza and Pasta parlour in Florida was serving calzones with a side of philosophy Tuesday, under attack from Republicans incensed that the owner became a "traitor."

With one high-profile bear hug, Scott van Duzer turned into an Obamaphile Sunday and immediately into a pizza pariah.

"I will not eat from traitor's hands and I'll never take food from man who DIDN'T BUILD his business," wrote ib G of Las Vegas, Nev., on the Yelp reviewing page for the business.

From 5,000 kilometres away, Leyla K. of Glendale, Calif., wrote: "You are officially a member of Obama's socialist outfit. I bookmarked your 'business' to never set foot in there." And so on, for more than 2,000 "reviews."

"We're all kind of puzzled," a restaurant worker admitted to Torstar News Service on Tuesday. "Politics brings out the best and worst in people."

Both sides, and some people who had actually eaten there, also did try to weigh in on Yelp. "All in all, I recommend the ham and pineapple pizza to any pizza eater earning less than $500,000 per year who likes tax cuts, less war, an end to torture, and dead terrorist kingpins," wrote Dennis J. of Milton, Ont.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"People are saying a lot of bad things and boycotting my restaurant."

Scott Van Duzer, owner of Big Apple Pizza and Pasta Italian Restaurant

Royal family. Protection officers can't cross 'golden line': London police chief

London's Metropolitan Police chief says his officers cannot interfere in the private lives of the royal family, not even to prevent Prince Harry from going bare at a Las Vegas party.

Bernard Hogan-Howe told a parliamentary committee on Tuesday his department was reviewing the role of Royal Protection officers in the incident, in which Harry was photographed naked.

However, Hogan-Howe told the panel: "Our role is to maintain the security of our protected individual. They have to lead a normal life and we have to strike a balance between intrusion into their life and keeping them safe."

Prince Harry

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

He added, "there is a golden line that cannot be crossed, which is getting involved in the social lives of the principals."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Well, I tried to re-invent the wheel for a few weeks until I realized that Steve Martel was there. So I realized that by having somebody who has done all the leg work before. It just speeds up the entire process.
Matthew

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He has a very approachable personality. It is not like "I am here and you are just a lowly person". He seems relaxed, he makes jokes, and he goes over the information more than once and answers questions readily.
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Employment

Positive hiring climate expected, survey finds

Canadian employers expect the hiring climate to remain "respectable" in the fourth quarter, according to the latest Manpower Inc. employment survey.

In a survey of 1,900 employers, 16 per cent said they plan to add jobs in the quarter and seven per cent anticipate cutbacks.

Employers in Western Canada expect a strong hiring climate partly due to the construction and mining sectors. In Quebec and Atlantic Canada, employers anticipate an upbeat hiring climate. But employers in Ontario project a modest quarter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tuition fees

Students taking on more debt, report warns

A new report suggests tuition fees are becoming less affordable for many Canadians, forcing an increasing number of students to take on heavy debt loads.

The report from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives shows that since 1990, average tuition and compulsory fees for undergraduates have risen by 6.2 per cent annually — three times the rate of inflation.

It now costs, on average, $6,186 a year to study at a Canadian university, and that doesn't include the cost of books, food or lodging. The think-tank expects that number will rise to $7,330 in four years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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Natural gas: $2.992 US (+18¢)
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Nordstrom to set up shop in Canada

North of the border. Upscale U.S. retailer to announce Canadian store plans, which could include trio of prime Sears locations set to be shuttered

A customer walks out of Nordstrom in Los Angeles. MARK TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Nordstrom is the latest U.S. retailer planning to set up shop north of the border.

Officials from the department store chain and Cadillac Fairview are scheduled to announce Canadian store plans at a media briefing in Toronto on Thursday.

The announcement will relate to Nordstrom's entry into the Canadian marketplace and will identify store locations in Cadillac Fairview shopping centres nationally.

According to previously published reports, the Seattle-based retailer is expected to open in four locations, including a trio of prime Sears Canada locations set to be shuttered this fall.

Sears Canada announced in March it would sell back leases for three of its stores to its landlord, Cadillac Fairview, for about $170 million.

High-profile locations at the Pacific Centre in Vancouver, Chinook Centre in Calgary and Rideau Centre in Ottawa are set to close by the end of October.

It announced a further closure, at the Deerfoot Mall in Calgary, in July.

Canadians can currently purchase goods direct from Nordstrom's website, with shipping fees that includes the cost of duties at checkout. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Digital Domain Media Group Inc., best known for its work on the movie Titanic, said Tuesday it filed for bankruptcy protection. PARAMOUNT PICTURES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Titanic effects maker abandons ship

Chapter 11. Digital production company responsible for special effects in epic movie files for bankruptcy

The digital production company founded by director James Cameron said Tuesday that it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and reached a deal to sell its operating business to a private investment firm for $15 million.

Less than a year after going public, Digital Domain Media Group Inc., best known for its work on Cameron's Titanic and its hologram of the late rapper Tupac Shakur, filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, along with a Canadian court.

The sale agreement with Searchlight Capital Partners LP includes the company's operating subsidiaries in the U.S. and Canada. It remains subject to an auction process where the company can consider other higher offers and must be approved by the court.

The company's Digital Domain Productions business has studios in California and Canada that create digital visual effects and animation for the entertainment and advertising industries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A NON-HOCKEY WRITER ON THE NHL LOCKOUT

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

True confession:

I am not a hockey writer. With a few notable exceptions, neither are most hockey writers.

Oops! That was my outside voice, wasn't it?

If I were a hockey writer, I wouldn't last very long. I would always want to write about the wrong thing.

Instead of reporting on the latest looming lockout (memo to hockey writers: That 'L' thing is called an alliteration) — which, by the way, happens Sunday at 12:01 a.m. if no one pulls a last-minute puck out of a hat — I would have a tendency to get distracted.

For example, did you know that Tyler Seguin just signed a contract with the Boston Bruins that will pay him $34.5 million US over the next six years? That's a little under $6 million a year.

Did you know that Tyler Seguin is 20 years old?

Now there's something to get distracted about. This kid scored 29 goals for the Bruins last year. According to my calculations, if he scores another 29 this year, he will make about $200,000 US a goal. Doesn't matter if it's a deflection or shot into an empty net.

Boston Bruins' $34M signing

I don't mean to pick on him exclusively. Every team has a rookie phenom whose annual salary exceeds the gross national product of your average banana republic.

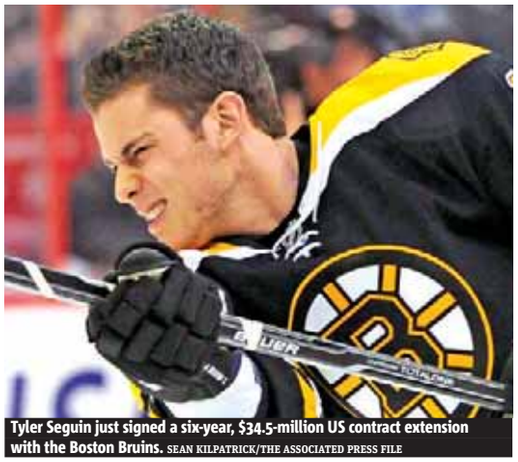
A real hockey writer doesn't question any of this stuff. Me? I'd write about my first real job, when I was a little older than Tyler Seguin. I made $250 a week, before taxes. Of course that was in 20th-century dollars, which adjusted for today's buying power, comes to about $2.50.

I could even argue that my job, which required me to make decisions about the deployment of millions of dollars in government grants to community groups, was more important than Tyler Seguin's. And then I would start wondering if our values were completely out of whack, and the owners and players should indeed take a time out and think carefully about what they're doing.

I mean, what are they doing? Isn't little Tyler, at $6 million a year, making enough money? I don't mean to pick on him exclusively. Every team has a rookie phenom whose annual salary exceeds the gross national product of your average banana republic. Speaking of average, the average salary for an NHL hockey player is $2.4 million a year. The minimum, paid to guys who gather splinters sitting on the bench, is $525,000 US.

Speaking of values being out of whack, the average salary for a pre-school teacher in Boston is $43,000 US. That's what happens when you don't take steroids.

There I go again. At this rate, they'll never let me be a hockey writer.



Tyler Seguin just signed a six-year, $34.5-million US contract extension with the Boston Bruins. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Duke and Duchess are blooming

STEPHEN MORRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diamond Jubilee

Orchid named after Will and Kate

Prince William and Kate view a hybrid orchid named in their honour at the Orchid Garden within the Singapore Botanical Gardens in Singapore on Tuesday.

The British royal couple is on an official three-day trip to Singapore. It is the first stop on the couple's nine-day tour of the Far East and South Pacific for the queen's Diamond Jubilee marking her 60 years on the throne.

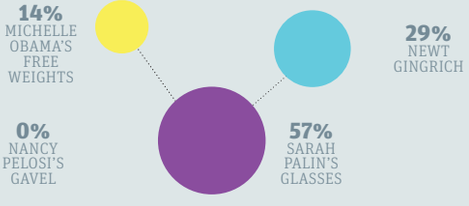
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prince William stops to speak to an honour guard on arrival at the Istana, the official residence of the president of Singapore, on Tuesday. William will also visit the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu with Kate. CHRIS MCGRATH/GETTY IMAGES

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What other inanimate object would you like to see Clint Eastwood yell at?



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Never Forget the Struggle. Never Forget the Streets. #RIPRaybeez

@VSRivers:
aaannndd I just missed Nicole Kidman, Bruce Willis and Tom Cruise coming out of Holts :(#TIFF

@WxPilot:
#Cleaning is the most self #respecting thing you can do for yourself.. don't forget to recycle those thoughts.. #green #Toronto #love

@PCArsenault8074:
Interesting stat. #Toronto has more cranes in the air than any other city in North America. Good times for workers.

@SongbirdKhalil:
I love that I live downtown in #TIFF12 mayhem. No better place to live than #Toronto

metro

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Enjoy this winning favourite road trip story and then get writing!

My favourite road trip was during one of the hottest summers in history. We piled into our little 1976 Mustang and after a few hours on the road we had to pull into a small town. The transmission was blown! I remember my Dad driving away backwards in the only gear that worked to find a service station. After an overnight stay, the car was fixed and we finally arrived at our destination. The timeshare is located on a golf course surrounded by majestic pine trees that were full of squirrels. Somehow, the thought of placing a trail of peanuts from the deck to the living room was the next best idea since sliced bread. It actually worked and one friendly squirrel didn't seem to mind until someone slammed the balcony door shut. One thing we observed years before that Sci-Fi movie came out, a living animal can run straight up a wall and as a family we can certainly scream and make a lot of commotion. Finally, it was safely whisked outside with a broom. After a fun week of swimming and squirrel wrangling, it was time to head back home. But the fun didn't end there, as we were driving back a sudden rain downpour blew something hard against our windshield and my Dad stopped to investigate. We didn't really know what happened until a few hours later when my Dad announced we were having duck for dinner. It was a road trip that I will never forget.

Our congratulations go to,

Edwin Sanchez
Calgary, AB

In Resident Evil: Retribution, Umbrella Corporation's genetic experiments turn the world's population into legions of flesh-eating undead. HANDOUT

How evil corporations ruled through film history

Resident Evil: Retribution. The Umbrella Corp. in gory legacy is part of a long list of heartless movie organizations

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

The Umbrella Corporation is the largest and most powerful corporate entity in the world. At least, in the world of the Resident Evil movies it is.

Since R.E. first appeared on the big screen in 2002, the Umbrella Corp has been responsible for weapons research, the release of the mutating T-virus, experiments on humans, and the creation of biologically engineered supersoldiers.

In this weekend's Resident Evil: Retribution Umbrella's genetic experiments turn the global population into "legions of the flesh eating undead."

Turning the world's people into zombies is pretty dastardly stuff, but Umbrella isn't the only cinematic corporation bending the rules and causing harm.

How about Blade Runner's morally despicable Tyrell Corporation?

Led by a CEO with a God complex, the company genetically engineered organic robots called replicants for use as slaves on space colonies.

Visually indistinguishable from humans, they are banned from earth, and if found on the planet are killed immediately.

That plot inspired another popular sci-fi flick.

When writer Edward Neumeier was asked about the plot of Blade Runner he replied, "It's about cop-hunting robots."

Inspired, he created RoboCop's story about megacorporation Omni Consumer Products who builds the title character, a superhuman cyborg law enforcer.

It's likely that defense firm Cyberdyne Systems had nothing but good intentions when it developed Skynet, the Global Digital Defense Network that features at the center of all the Terminator movies.

The idea was to remove the possibility of human error when responding to military threats. Who knew the technology would one day eliminate the human race?

Elimination of humankind was not on the minds of Soylent Corporation, the entity running things in the sci-fi flick Soylent Green. Set in an overpopulated, polluted world they came up with an alternative food source, Soylent Red and Yellow made of "high-energy plankton."

A third product, Soylent Green, becomes NYC's most popular snack until a cop (Charlton Heston) discovers the green wafer's main ingredient. "Soylent Green is people!"

I doubt even Mitt "Corporations are people!" Romney would approve of District 9's Multi-National United. Despite their slogan, "Paving the way to unity," they create alien apartheid in South Africa for the purpose of performing experiments on the hapless ET's who landed in South Africa. Most of these cinematic corporations sound innocuous.

At least the name of the corporation in Mel Brooks's Silent Movie was truthful about what they do — Engulf & Devour.

2 SCENE

On the web

Michael J. Fox takes part in 9-11 event to raise money for charities

8 Flicks to see

We've had our fun all summer long with silly comic-book films, star-packed action movies and our fair share of mediocre comedies. As the weather gets cooler, the more serious-minded fare makes its way into the local cinema — but it's bringing along the next James Bond installment, some family flicks and a horror film or two.

HEIDI PATALANO
scene@metronews.ca

1 Trouble with the Curve

We're hoping everyone's over the now-infamous RNC empty chair incident once Clint Eastwood makes an appearance with this film about an aging baseball talent scout who takes his daughter on a last recruiting trip.

2 Killing Them Softly

Brad Pitt is already getting high praise for this thriller about an enforcer who investigates a heist that occurred during a mob-poker game.

3 Cloud Atlas

Eyeballs will explode and minds will be blown — so we hear — by this ambitious Wachowski Brothers adaptation of the multidimensional novel by David Mitchell. Tom Hanks and Halle Berry play several characters in the past, present and future.

4 Flight

Like an alternative universe scenario of Captain Chesley Sullenberger, this Robert Zemeckis film, starring Denzel Washington, centres on one pilot who saves his plane from disaster. Unfortunately for the hero, an investigation into the incident offers some damning evidence against him.

5 Life of Pi

Director Ang Lee may make his comeback after 2009's egregious dud, Taking Woodstock. This 3D adaptation of the 2001 book of the same name promises to be magical, mystical and loaded with exotic animals behaving strangely.

6 Lincoln

Daniel Day-Lewis, Spielberg and Sally Field? Wrap it up, we'll take it. This look at the 16th president's struggle to negotiate the 13th amendment to the U.S. Constitution is all but guaranteed a few award nods later in the year.

7 Seven Psychopaths

From Martin McDonagh, the man who brought us In Bruges, comes a quirky ensemble comedy about a part-time dog thief who swipes the wrong shih-tzu from a psychotic gangster played by Woody Harrelson.

8 Argo

Ben Affleck solidifies his status as a top-flight Hollywood director with his third film behind the camera, this one centering on a CIA "exfiltration" specialist who plans to free six Americans in hiding during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis.

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Action films. Forget the awards; you will still be fully entertained

Bond is back. So is Daniel Craig. HANDOUT

The fall movie season isn't only about high-minded awards-bait. James Bond and a few very able heroic counterparts will be blasting their way through the chilly months as well.

Dredd 3-D, Sept. 21
Like any other film set in the future, this take on the comic book Judge Dredd finds us in an irradiated nightmare wherein the police force acts as judge, jury and executioner?

Taken 2, Oct. 5
Liam Neeson is going on an awfully long streak of playing bad-ass rebels who make no apologies — and we're glad to welcome another instalment to that series, this time with a sequel to his 2008 Luc Besson film.

Skyfall, Nov. 9
The world has been waiting for this 23rd Bond film for quite some time, with only the announcement of Bond girl Naomie Harris as a quantum of solace (sorry, couldn't help it). Javier Bardem serves as 007's nemesis and Sam Mendes directs. Daniel Craig, of course, continues his reign as the smoldering spy.

Red Dawn, Nov. 21
Could a bunch of teenagers defend their small Washington hometown from an invasion of the North Korean military? Chris Hemsworth, Josh Hutcherson and Jeffrey Dean Morgan will help us find out.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Honorable mentions from this year's crop

Outside looking in.
These films aren't on the inside track for 2012 awards but they are making waves for their outstanding performances

While these films didn't quite make the critics' short list for must-see movies, there's plenty of thought-provoking filmmaking here that could make some waves with audiences.

Arbitrage, Sept. 21
Richard Gere stars in this complex film about a hedge fund magnate who finds himself beholden to an unlikely person while trying to offload his trading empire.

End of Watch, Sept. 21
Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Pena star as two young police officers who get themselves tangled up with a gang-related drug ring and subsequently become the marked men.

Looper, Sept. 28
Joseph Gordon-Levitt takes on the ungainly task of playing a young Bruce Willis — prosthetic forehead and all —in this sci-fi action film about a future in which an assassin must go into his past to kill his younger self.

Exclusively online

Want more?

- **More.** Visit metronews.ca for more of our fall movie preview, and pick up Metro later this week for more films, including our look at date night fare and comedies.

Nicole Kidman stars in The Paperboy, which opens Oct. 5. HANDOUT

Won't Back Down, Sept. 28
Let's get all "power to the people" with this uplifting David and Goliath story about two mothers (Viola Davis and Maggie Gyllenhaal) who band together to make changes in their local inner-city schools.

The Paperboy, Oct. 5
All we keep hearing about this film is a strange Zac Efron/Nicole Kidman urination scene, but the story about a journalist (Matthew McConaughey) investigating a wrongful conviction with his brother (Efron) and the inmate's girlfriend (Kidman) should prove to generate buzz in less scintillating respects.

Rust and Bone, Nov. 16
As lovely as Marion Cotillard was in The Dark Knight Rises, she's even more seductive speaking her native tongue in this French film about a young man who falls in love with a killer whale trainer, directed by Jacques Audiard.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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NBC's The Voice takes on Simon Cowell's X Factor on Fox — and the gloves are off

Cowell's fuming. In the U.S. the two shows go head-to-head; but in Canada both are on CTV (X Factor airs tonight)

The stakes are high, the tactics are fierce and the rhetoric is heating up.

Obama versus Romney? Nope. It's the contest between The Voice and The X Factor, which escalated after NBC abruptly moved to pit its Voice against Wednesday's second-season debut of Fox's X Factor.

The two singing contests already faced a tussle over audience votes when NBC scheduled a fall cycle of The Voice after it proved itself as a solid spring performer.

Simon Cowell is X Factor's creator, judge and producer. HANDOUT

Then, in a post-Labour Day surprise, an apparently mischievous NBC said it was expanding the show's first week from Monday and Tuesday to include a third episode, which happens to air opposite the first hour of the X Factor at 8 p.m.-10 p.m. EDT Wednesday. Fox's show also airs Thursday.

Suddenly, the battle of the talent shows is much more interesting.

Or make that infuriating, if you're X Factor creator, executive producer and judge Simon Cowell. Known for his creative critiques as an American Idol panelist ("You sound like a cat jumping off the Empire State Building"), he was simply blunt about NBC's move.

Cowell took off the gloves when he told a teleconference last week that he was angry "because I think there's a kind of gentleman's agreement." The implication: Networks can slap each other around by putting dramas and comedies head-to-head, but a talent show is in a class of its own, like PBS' Downton Abbey but with a record contract and hot modern blondes named Christina, Britney and Demi.

"I think it's mean-spirited and I hope and I pray that it backfires on them, because it's one of the best shows we've ever made," Cowell said, adding that three consecutive nights of Voice is "too much" and viewers will choose X Factor.

"But I've learned, don't make any predictions," he said, tempering bravado with caution.

Season 2 represents a sophomore reboot for X Factor, which did well last season but failed to pull the 20 million viewers he'd grandly predicted. Instead, it averaged about 12.6 million for its performance and results episodes, which Cowell saw as a "wake-up call" for how to handle the U.S. version of his British hit.

"I was a bit cocky," he said in a recent interview. "I was feeling bullish coming off the U.K. show. And I don't think I really read the (American) market that well" and how a strong show could let "massive social network power" make it a hit.

So is X Factor sharper now that first-year judges Nicole Scherzinger and Paula Abdul are out and Britney Spears and Demi Lovato are in? Yes, said Cowell, with the new judges and new producers making a difference.

"The show looks better and feels better than what we did a year ago. I can see an improvement. I'm happy with it," he said. In Canada the war's not on since both shows air on CTV. The voice season premiere was broadcast Monday night, the premiere of X Factor airs tonight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adam Levine is a celebrity judge on The Voice. HANDOUT

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GETTY IMAGES

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

Fresh from some time off, DMB returns with a new album of all-new songs about love, lust, aging and activism

AWAY FROM THE WORLD

Dave Matthews needed a break.

His famously hardworking band took last year off and Matthews says he's planning to scale back future summer tours.

Still, Matthews didn't want to give himself too much free time.

The band reunited early this year with Crash and Before These Crowded Streets producer Steve Lillywhite, originally planning to record studio versions of older tunes from live performances.

Matthews decided instead to pen and record all new songs, with lyrics about love, lust, aging and activism laid over his three bandmates' recognizably comfortable-yet-funky musical bed.

DMB

"This album, it was a very refreshing process."

Dave Matthews talking about the making of the band's new album which was recorded much quicker than its last

The result, Away From the World, follows the critical and commercial success of 2009's Big Whiskey & the GrooGrux King: 1.2 million copies sold and an album of the year Grammy nomination.

With the latest album hitting store shelves on Tuesday, the 45-year-old singer-songwriter spoke about his children, growing old and God.

How was your break from touring last year? Did it accomplish what you'd hoped?

It was good.

It forced me to realign things.

There was a momentum that had built up over the years that I sort of didn't feel I had any say.... I wanted to stop. So we did.

It sounds from the album like you're thinking quite a bit about growing old.

I'm partly obsessed by aging gracefully. Not that I believe in God.... My sister said, "You age gracefully so you find out what God wanted you to look like when you're old." I kind of like that idea.... But I like the wrinkles. I woke up three days ago and I thought, "In 15 years I'm going to be 60." ... Wow, that's pretty soon.

Who did you spend time with on your break?

I spent most of my time with my family.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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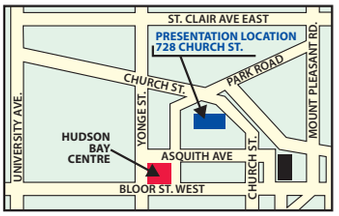

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Logan Lerman attends The Perks of Being a Wallflower premiere during TIFF. SONIA RECCHIA/ GETTY IMAGES

In tomorrow's Metro

"One of the first questions (director) Mike (Newell) asked me when we were sitting down (and) talking was 'Why is Pip such a little s—?' Rather than doing what I've seen in a few other versions, where it's often a wide-eyed kind of innocent Pip, kind of not knowing what to do with himself, I wanted to make Pip strong and somebody who has had to fight all his life." – Jeremy Irvine, who plays Pip in Great Expectations, which premiered Tuesday night at the Toronto International Film Festival.

- Check back tomorrow for a chat with Irvine, Newell and co-star Holliday Grainger.

Jeremy Irvine. GETTY IMAGES

Hardly a wallflower at the festival

Logan Lerman. His character deals with heavy issues in Perks of Being a Wallflower, but the actor opens up about his own experience and more

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Logan Lerman takes on some heavy material as the troubled teen at the centre of Perks of Being a Wallflower, based on writer-director Stephen Chbosky's critically acclaimed young adult novel.

Luckily, Lerman's own high school experience — during which he was already a professional actor — wasn't as heavy as that of his character Charlie.

Where did you fit in the social scene in high school?

Well, I wasn't Charlie. I wasn't as much of a wallflower. I'm different from Charlie, but a lot of my friends were like him, and I had a lot to draw from. I wasn't very social outside of school, but I did know everybody. I did talk to a lot of people. I was pretty outgoing. But I wasn't very social. I was more interested in making short films and stuff like that. Most people weren't.

You have some rather revealing costume moments when your character joins the cast of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

That was one of the scenes that kind of scared me. But it was a challenging role, it was a challenging arc to figure out. I was a little nervous about the whole thing, but those nerves are fuel for all the prep that was so necessary for this film.

Did you talk to Stephen about how much of this was autobiographical?

I didn't ask. He'd offer insight a lot of the times, personal insight as to what the moment meant to him or what it was related to. It was very helpful. He knows this story. He knows every little detail of how he wanted to make it.

How was the atmosphere with your cast-members when you weren't shooting?

When we weren't shooting, we would just hang out all the time. We were living in this little wing of a Crowne Plaza in the middle of this mall in a residential area — door to door all of us living right next to each other in this one hallway. Our doors were open 24-7, and we'd just walk in and out of each other's rooms, hanging out all the time, playing music. We were like a little family, a little unit, a little compound.

Where do you go from here?

Fortunately, now I'm in a place where I can kind of take my time, and all I want to do is work with filmmakers who I appreciate. That's really my main goal or thing that I want to do — just collaborate with filmmakers who I love — if I can. Or take projects that I'm extremely passionate about. That's all that I plan on doing. There are so many filmmakers I can name that I'd love to work with, like the David Finchers out there, the Coen brothers, Todd Field. There's so many names, and I'm missing out, like, 40 other people on that list. Those are dreams.

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Q & A. Anna Kendrick pulls double duty at TIFF

Anna Kendrick GETTY IMAGES

Anna Kendrick is becoming something of a regular at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Last year, she debuted 50/50 and she's had a spot in her heart for the city since filming Scott Pilgrim vs. the World here.

This year, Kendrick is pulling double duty with the gritty LAPD drama End of Watch and Robert Redford's thriller The Company You Keep. And she couldn't be happier to be back in town. "I'm really excited," she tells Metro. "I love TIFF."

Here's her scoop on her double-feature:

On End of Watch
There was a script, but then we were encouraged to do as much improv as we wanted. I was glad to have that under my belt going into Drinking Buddies, (an improvisation-heavy comedy Kendrick just finished shooting). And End of Watch came together in a really nice way. I'm really proud of it. It's the first movie I've been in that's that kind of dark and violent, so it's strange to watch it because I'm just like, 'How am I in this movie? I should be watching this just as a theatergoer.' It's very strange.

On The Company You Keep
Yeah, yeah. And I have a really small role in that. It was just one of those things where it's like, of course I'm going to say yes to that. There's no way I'm not going to say yes. I basically have a cameo in the film, but it's a Robert Redford movie, so come on.

NED EHRBAR/MWN IN HOLLYWOOD

Hype, racism and sex

Head online to check out our latest TIFF Chat, in which Metro's Ned Ehrbar teams up with CinemaBlend.com's Katey Reich to address some burning questions from the festival: 1. Does The Master live up to the hype? 2. Is The Impossible racist? And 3. Is a certain sexual act becoming a trend in high-brow festival movies? Check out the video and more at metronews.ca/tiff.

METRO

Stars sparkle in Swarovski

Resonating with sparkly indulgence, a touch of Swarovski has the power to transform typical into stunning. Swarovski and celebration are synonymous. And our friends in Hollywood certainly celebrate at TIFF — if nothing else — themselves. While in town for TIFF, the stars can stop by the Swarovski suite, conveniently located on the third floor of the Shangri-La, which is just steps away from where some of the festivals most coveted parties are happening. We matched some of our favourite pieces with the celebrities we imagine loving and rocking the piece.

JULIAN BRASS
notable.ca
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JULIAN BRASS, FOUNDER OF NOTABLE.CA, WILL BE IN THE MIDST OFF ALL THE STAR ACTION DURING THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL. BE SURE TO CHECK OUT HIS DAILY UPDATES AT METRONEWS.CA/TIFF

Madonna

Name of item:
Sensual Cuts, Kingdom of Jewels Catwalk Collection.

Description:
This asymmetrical and open worked top is infused with Asian inspiration and embroidered with chains and crystal stones in a "noeud de Brandebourg" spirit. This work of art took 60 hours (including 10 hours of embroideries) and required 80,000 stones — an ultimate statement-making creation only fit for a superstar like Madonna. Sadly, this item is not for sale.

Ed Westwick

Name of item:
Phase Pendant.

Description:
Eye-catching and edgy, this unique and mystical piece could easily be worn with Westwick's subtle hipster style that includes black skinny jeans, T-shirts and aviator sunglasses. Hanging on a metallic chain, the pendant shines darkly in Jet crystal, with the combination of different finishes creating an interesting effect.

Price:
$130, Swarovski.ca.

Nicole Kidman

Name of item:
Society Necklace.

Description:
This ruthenium-plated necklace is inspired by the Chinese snake symbol and is the perfect accessory to Kidman's typically long, solid colours and figure-hugging gowns. Glittering in metallic tones, it shows an accumulation of geometric square crystals for a seductive and modern snakeskin look. Should she desire, she can add a matching cuff.

Price:
$1,100, Swarovski.ca.

Jennifer Lopez

Name of item:
Fit Silver Shade Pierced Earrings.

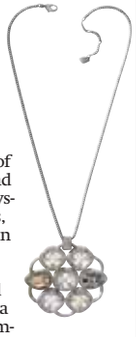
Description:
This pair of rhodium-plated pierced earrings offer the perfect statement pair to add that "wow factor" to even the most simple of outfits. No, JLo is not known for plain Jane outfits, but she is known for bold earrings and has been spotted in this pair, which twinkle with the Silver Shade Crystal Mesh triangle.

Price:
$165, Swarovski.ca.

Penelope Cruz

Name of item:
Swain Pendant.

Description:
This piece complements Penelope Cruz's classic beauty with its vintage look. The opulent pendant sparkles in a combination of golden and silvery crystal shades, features an ornate floral motif and hangs on a ruthenium-plated chain. Cruz could add the matching earrings or ring for a beautiful, classic ensemble.



Price: $270, Swarovski.ca.

Ben Affleck

Name of item:
Piazza Grande – Automatic, Black Watch.

Description:
The sleek, urban design of this watch is for the style-conscious man who doesn't want to push any boundaries — like Ben Affleck. Bold yet not obnoxious, the strap is made of black calfskin leather with embossed crocodile structure and a 43 mm stainless steel case with black faceted ceramic elements. The watch comes with a date indicator and is water resistant up to 100 m.

Price: $1,100, Swarovski.ca.

Nelly Furtado

Name of item:
Amazing Black Sunglasses.

Description:
A bold piece with a strong personality, the Amazing sunglasses should be worn by a confident, seductive and fashion-forward female like Nelly Furtado. She has stepped out in these shades before. The glasses' frame and arms are made entirely of prisms, recreating the finely chiseled facets of crystal that are sure to turn heads. The pair features injected frame and arms, lenses in CR 39 6 base, and sun protection: high (category 2).

Price:
$400, Swarovski.ca.

Sharon Stone

Name of item:
Power Silver Shade Evening Bag.

Description:
Stone has graced the red carpet with this tiny, tastefully elegant Handheld Silver Shade Crystal Mesh minaudière. To suit her preference, it features a removable rhodium-plated snake chain handle.

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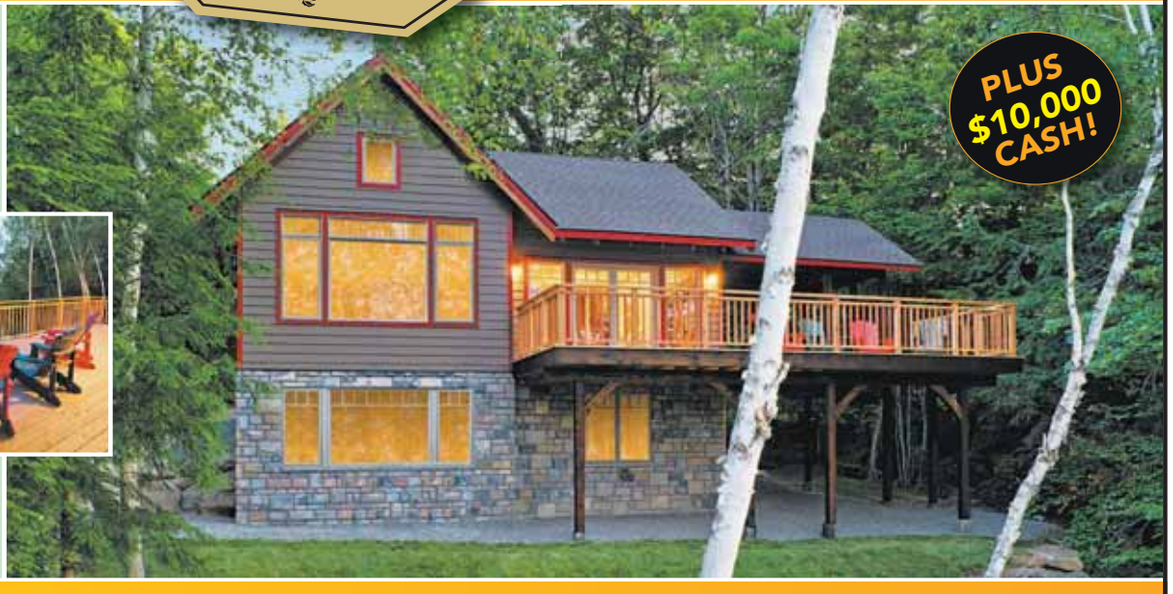

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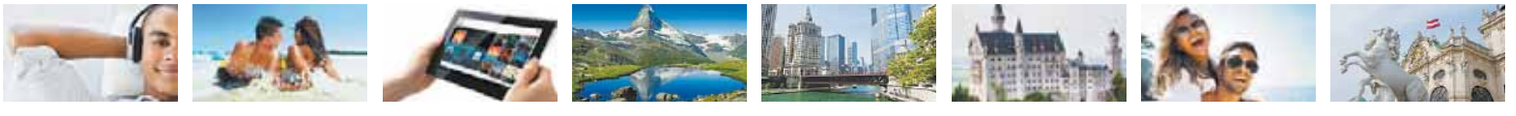

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- **Party updates.** Wondering what celebs were in town this weekend, and where they partied? Visit metronews.ca/tiff for Notable.ca's Julian Brass'
- **Video content.** Remember to also check out our film chat videos and some TIFF celebs being asked to do some crazy things.

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Mastering memorable British literature on the silver screen

Ralph Fiennes. The actor stars in Great Expectations and in the highly anticipated 007 movie Skyfall

NED EHRBAR
tiff@metronews.ca

Ralph Fiennes knows his way around the annals of British literature, from Shakespeare to J.K. Rowling. This fall, he adds two more notables to his list with Mike Newell's Great Expectations, in which he plays the convict Magwitch and Skyfall, in which he joins the ranks of MI6. Fiennes spoke to Metro at TIFF about both films.

Last year you did Shakespeare, and now you're on to Dickens. How do the two compare?
They both created these sort of amazing, high-definition characters. And they both have this great genius for observation of humankind and extraordinary types of individuals. But I feel that, certainly with Dickens, this is a man who is observing, and all these characters are rooted in people he witnessed — and who have obviously grown and expanded and been embellished by his imagination. There's that amazing thing in great writers, they create these people who are sort of recognizable but also at the same time unique.

You have Shakespeare, you have Dickens, you have Harry Potter and you have Bond coming up with Skyfall. Are there any British institutions left on your list that you want to tackle?
Oh my (laughs). I probably should de-institutionalize myself after this and go right away from any institutional activities.

How about a member of the Royal Family?
I don't think I'm heading in that direction, no.

How does it compare playing someone absolutely evil like Voldemort to someone like Magwitch who's more of a gray area?
Magwitch is a criminal. He thinks and acts like a criminal. He's always been on the wrong side of the law — probably as a way to survive. The British justice system brutalized people in a really shocking way. He's not innately evil. The simple gesture of kindness that Pip shows, he never forgets it. People who live outside the law have a very strong code of honour. And also the innocent, non-judgmental generosity of a boy opens up Magwitch for the capacity to love. I mean, he loves in a sort of mad, tunnel-vision way. He's actually a big soul that's been sort of conditioned by criminal life, and the big soul of him comes out at the end.

Ralph Fiennes. GETTY IMAGES

It's a shame Skyfall isn't at the festival as well.
I haven't seen it, but I hear early noises coming out of the corridors or Skyfall power that are good, I think.

When you were younger, did you have a particular Bond movie you always wanted to act out?
I have always loved the books above the films. I've enjoyed the films, but I've always thought there was a darkness and a film noir-ish atmosphere to the books that the films initially sort of captured a bit, then went further and further away from. And they're their own beasts, the films. But I think of all the films, I'd probably pick From Russia with Love, which I think was very faithful to the book.

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Azucena (Mzia Nioradze) and the Conte di Luna (Robert Hyman) in Opéra de Marseille's production of Il Trovatore, 2003. COURTESY CHRISTIAN DRESSE

Four Seasons of Opera

While Toronto's glitterati is consumed with TIFF, the city's other major cultural organizations are getting ready to roll out their red carpets as they launch their exciting fall seasons.

The Canadian Opera Company's 2012/2013 season begins on Sept. 29 with the premiere of a beloved Italian opera: Verdi's Il Trovatore. The current production, staged at Toronto's magnificent Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, was originally produced by Opera Marseilles in 2003. With this rendition of Il Trovatore the COC is very pleased to be bringing two renowned male opera singer's to the stage: tenor Ramón Vargas and baritone Russell Braun. Il Trovatore tells the tragic story of the son of a gypsy woman and his love for a noblewoman.

Also on stage this fall is Johann Straus's Die Fledermaus, a tale of revenge, masquerades and infidelity set in the baroque romance of early-20th century Vienna. Die Fledermaus opens on Oct. 4. To celebrate this original COC production, the Opera Company's fall fundraiser: Operanation, with the theme of Sweet Revenge. Operanation, which raises funds for the COC's Ensemble Studio opera training program, takes place on the evening of Oct. 18. Grab a mask and join in the revelry!

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Miley Cyrus. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Miley Cyrus throwing punches for her fiancé

Miley Cyrus is leading a pretty dangerous life lately.

First, a man attempts to force his way into her home wielding a pair of scissors — though Cyrus wasn't home at the time — and now she's getting into bar fights. Cyrus and fiancé Liam Hemsworth were hanging out at a nightclub in the Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood when a man bumped into Hemsworth, leading to a heated discussion, according to Hollyscoop. After some shoving ensued, Cyrus reportedly got between the guys and ended up shoving the stranger herself and punching him in the face, according to a report of battery he later filed with the police.

So far, no arrests have been made, and Cyrus' reps doubt there will be any.

"This claim is completely false and erroneous," her rep says.

Zac Efron

Efron not offended by gay rumours

Zac Efron appreciates his gay fans — and isn't fazed by speculation about his own sexuality.

"I don't like to live in fear about things like rumors and backlash to begin with — that's the way I was raised — but I just can't see what's so wrong about being gay," he tells the Advocate in an interview.

He also makes it clear that he's a strong supporter of marriage equality.

"It's an issue that affects so many people in my life — a lot of my close friends and some of the most influential people around me," Efron says. "I just want them all to be happy."

Sheryl Crow

Crow blames her cell for brain tumor

Sheryl Crow developed a benign brain tumor earlier this year, and she thinks it may be all her cellphone's fault.

"There are no doctors that will confirm that. (But) I do have the theory that it's possible that it's related to that," Crow tells Katie Couric in an interview. "I (used to spend) hours on the old archaic cellphones."

Crow explains that the location of the tumor was suspiciously close to where she used to hold the phone.

Twitter

@Joan_Rivers
I love Fashion Week in New York. Everyone is so chic! I just saw a bag lady wearing a pantsuit made from old "Will Work For Food" signs.

@aaronpaul_8
I want pizza so bad right now. The good kind of pizza though not the bad kind. The good kind is so much better than the bad.

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The Word

Stewart and Franco? Sure, we'll buy it

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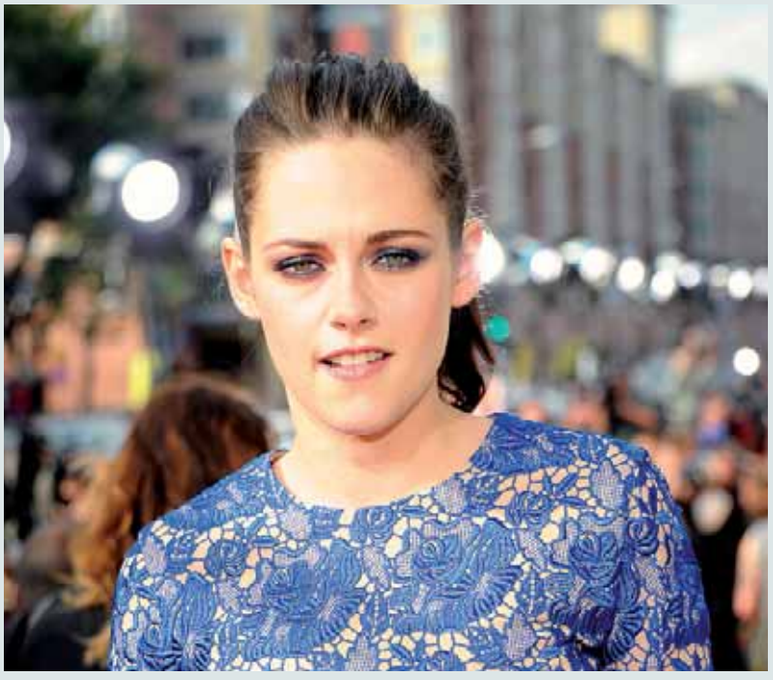

Although she's still shuffling through airports in Robert Pattinson's T-shirts, it seems Kristen Stewart may be entertaining the idea of moving on. The actress was spotted chatting with a "smitten" James Franco at the Toronto Film Festival, reports RadarOnline.

"There was a lot of flirting and Kristen was overjoyed by the attention she was getting from James, who was gushing over her, saying what a great actress he thinks she is and was full of praise for her latest movie, On the Road," a source tells the site.

"At the end of their chance meeting, James took Kristen's number and asked her out for dinner. Kristen initially said no, but is mulling over the idea. She knows she has to move on now following her break up with Rob."

Is it just us, or does this "source" sound like Kristen Stewart giving herself a pep talk in the bathroom mirror?

We wouldn't have initially put Franco and Stewart together, but maybe they can bond over complaining about fame while taking roles in blockbusters. Plus, Franco's so pretentious these days, we bet he has a stronger British accent than Pattinson.

Nicki Minaj

Nicki Minaj gets some high level support

While many people were worried Nicki Minaj's lyrics about supporting Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney were sincere, at least one fan wasn't worried: President Barack Obama himself.

"I'm not sure that's actually what happened," Obama says in an interview with an Orlando radio station. "I think she had a song on there, a little rap that said that. But she likes to play different characters, so I don't know what's going on there."

Minaj herself took to Twitter to confirm Obama's suspicions.

"Ha! Thank you for understanding my creative humor and sarcasm, Mr. President. The smart ones always do," she tweeted.

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Earning a traffic ticket. Tickets are one of the most common reasons that insurance rates go up. Many different traffic violations can be responsible for an increase. Speeding, running right lights and careless driving are all violations that result in insurance rates that are higher. It takes three years before the ticket is removed from your driving record.

Not shopping for rates before you buy a new car. People often find themselves shocked by the cost of insurance on their new car, but there's a way to avoid that. Every car comes with a different insurance rating, and some are pricier than others to insure. When you're considering options, get car insurance quotes on each possibility before you make a buying decision.

Failure to shop around at regular intervals. Many people avoid it because they believe it's a hassle, or think they can't get a better rate. This is one expensive mistake. People who take the time to shop around almost always pay less; and with internet quoting sites like InsuranceHotline.com, it's easier than ever.

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The view from Trius winery, one of more than two dozen wineries in Niagara-on-the-Lake. JOSEPH CHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Autumn is a grape time to visit Niagara-on-the-Lake

Harvest heaven. Small town near Niagara Falls boasts wineries, fresh food markets and a theatre festival

Mention Niagara and most travellers think of the famous falls, which deserve their reputation as the mother of all tourist attractions.

But there's another place with Niagara in its name just a half-hour drive from the falls that should be part of any visit to the area: Niagara-on-the-Lake, a lovely town known for wineries, an annual theatre festival and a charming downtown.

And while summer is high season for visiting the waterfalls, September and October are among the busiest months of the year in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

There are more than 30 wineries in Niagara-on-the-Lake and 80 altogether in the region, and fall is the season when visitors can see and experience the harvest and the pressing of the grapes.

The Shaw Festival. EMILY COOPER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Visitors can also find locally grown produce, depending on what's in season, including peaches, pears and apples, along with jams, juices and other products, for sale in places like Kurtz Orchards Country Market, 16006 Niagara Parkway, and at a Saturday morning farmers market, through Oct. 6 at 111 Garrison Village Drive.

Fall is also the last chance to catch performances at the Shaw Festival, a popular annual event that takes place in three theatres in Niagara-on-the-Lake, staging works by George Bernard Shaw and his contemporaries, plus new plays written about his era (1856-1950). The season began in May, with productions ranging from Ragtime, through Oct. 14, to Hedda Gabler, through Sept. 29. Noel Coward's Present Laughter and Bernard Shaw's Misalliance run through October.

For leaf-peepers, the area has "stunning fall colour," usually peaking in early October, according to Janice Thomson, executive director of Niagara-on-the-Lake's chamber of commerce. The town's leafy waterfront areas include both the Niagara River and Lake Ontario (the waterfalls flow into the river, which flows into the lake). Niagara Parkway, which follows the river, offers a "spectacular drive," according to Tina Truszyk, spokeswoman for the Tourism Partnership of Niagara.

There are also cycling routes along the river and the nearby Welland Canal. Niagara-on-the-Lake has a number of bike rental companies including some like Zoom Leisure Bike — zoomleisure.com — that offer guided bike tours of the wineries.

The region is best-known for ice wine, a specialty product made from grapes frozen on the vine in winter. The frozen grapes are nearly dehydrated so the juice is concentrated, which makes the wine sweeter than table wine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

- **Niagara-on-the-Lake.** niagaraonthelake.com
- **Shaw Festival.** This annual theatre festival runs through late October. shawfest.com.
- **Wine route planner.** winecountryontario.ca/niagara-on-the-lake.
- **Icewine festival.** The icewine festival takes place in January 2013.

On the web

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The beaches of Kefalonia

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Village of Assos at Kefalonia Island, Greece. THINKSTOCK

HISTORY

Kefalonia (or Cephalonia) has been inhabited since prehistoric times. Today, locals like to argue that they are the descendants of Ulysses and that Kefalonia was the Homeric Ithaka. You won't see much history, however: After the 1953 earthquakes that almost razed the island to the ground, most of its neoclassical mansions, as well as Venetian and British public buildings, were demolished. One can find the only surviving remnants of pre-earthquake architecture on the northern side of the island in the picturesque fishing villages of Fiscardo and Assos. The filming of Captain Corelli's Mandolin in 2000 brought a lot of Hollywood stars (Madonna, Penelope Cruz, Tom Hanks) to Kefalonia, an island which had a non-cosmopolitan profile.

HIGHLIGHTS

During your stay on the island you can visit Argostoli, Fiscardo, the Assos Castle, the Melissani and Drogarati Caves near Sami, St George's Castle, the scenic monasteries of St Gerassimos and many picturesque small villages along the way. For hikers, Ainos (1,620m) is the highest mountain on the island. There is an excellent view from its summit, where in ancient times a temple of Zeus was situated, according to the ancient Greek author Hesiod.

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DAY TRIPS

The following day trips combine a visit to the most well-known beaches and local attractions.

Krani province: Argostoli is the capital of the island and worth a visit. In the morning, you must definitely check out the Corgialenion Historical and Folk Art Museum (the old library building). Afterwards, you can enjoy coffee and ice cream at the Premier Café-Restaurant on the Central (Valianos) Square. Then you will visit the Light House in the Lassi area and go swimming in one of the nearby beaches (Makrys Gyalos, Platys Gyalos, Minies).

Sami province: A great excursion destination is the Sami area. You can visit the Melissani sea-cave for a boat ride (best between noon and 2 p.m., when the sun hits vertically its underground turquoise waters through a hole in the cave's ceiling). In the cave, you will see the ancient temple where the Greek god Pan and the Nymphs were worshiped. Afterwards you will drive to the huge Drogarati Cave, which has impressive stalactites and stalagmites. There you can find the largest internal cave space in Greece, where concerts have been held in the past, as it has perfect acoustics and a seating capacity of 500 people.

Erisos prefecture: Set out for Assos, where you will visit the Venetian Castle and go for a swim in the green Assos bay. You can stop over for another swim in Dafnoudi, Eblyssi or Foki beach, on the way to the picturesque fishing village of Fiscardo. You will have dinner in one of the taverns on the dock (try to avoid famous names, as they do not always meet their reputation). Stroll between the yachts, the small shops on the waterfront and the beautiful side streets. Fiscardo has a vibrant night life and you can party there until the small hours of the morning.

TOP BEACHES

Myrtos is a 10-minute drive from Assos. The beach has large pebbles and deep turquoise waters; there are umbrellas and sunbeds for hire and a canteen. There is a large cave at the far left-hand side of the beach. Sunsets are beautiful from Myrtos. When it is very windy you will notice very high waves (four metres). In such cases it is dangerous to go swimming, but you can play with the waves on the beach. Antisamos beach is situated in a green bay, right opposite Ithaka, near Sami. This is where parts of the movie Captain Corelli's Mandolin were filmed. It has pebbles, various bars and umbrellas and sunbeds. You can combine it with a visit to Sami and its caves. Petanoi beach is at the western part of the island, near Lixouri. It is a bay with lush green vegetation that looks like a lake, when there are no waves. The beach has umbrellas and sunbeds, and a good taverna.

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‘Pop down’ for a gourmet meal in a Finnish eatery located in a limestone mine

Underground restaurant. Cut off from the world, award-winning chef says ‘nothing distracts from the cooking’

An award-winning chef has opened a new restaurant in Finland that turns the idea of “pop-up” eateries upside down: it’s located 80 metres underground.

Discerning food lovers are being served salted salmon, veal tenderloin, snails cooked in Pernod and apple crumble in the “pop-down” restaurant in a limestone mine in the small, southern town of Lohja (LOU-ya), 60 kilometres west of Helsinki.

A four-course evening meal costs $160, including drinks and transportation from Helsinki to the mine and back.

In major cities around the world, “pop-up” restaurants — temporary eateries often located in underused kitchens — are allowing young chefs with experience to experiment without the risk of bankruptcy.

But Finnish chef Timo Linnamaki said the idea of preparing food down a mine was all part of being close to the earth.

“‘Pop-down’ is such a unique idea that I just had to do it,” Linnamaki said Monday, a few hours before the first guests arrived. “It’s great working down here because you are totally cut off from the world, so nothing distracts from the cooking.”

Eerie blue lights cut deep shadows into the ceiling of the large, dim, underground cavern, a former smithy where drills were hammered to dig into the bowels of the Earth.

Olli-Pekka Jantti, a computer retailer from Helsinki, said his meal there was superb.

“The food was absolutely delicious,” Jantti said, after supping on starters of vendace — a small local freshwater fish — and snails and berries.

“What I liked was that the theme of the evening was the earth, and being so deep down you really felt you were somewhere very different, very strange.”

The 115-year-old mine goes down to a depth of 380 metres where limestone is still mined, mainly for the chemical industry.

Linnamaki, whose restaurant Muru — “crumb” in Finnish — won this year’s gourmet title in Finland only two years after it opened, says the experience of working down in the gloomy depths has inspired him to search for new challenges.

“Certainly it’s the weirdest place I have cooked,” he said.

“It could be difficult to find something on par.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No (more) reservations

If you’re looking for a taste of the underground, you might be out of luck. The 64-seat restaurant, with long, shiny wooden tables lit by candles, is expecting brisk business. The man behind it, Finnish chef Timo Linnamaki, said it is fully booked until the experiment ends on Sept. 29. “We’ll be underground Monday to Saturday. On Sundays, we pop up to sleep,” says Linnamaki.

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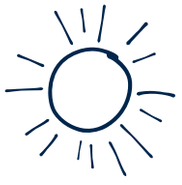

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Muru Pop Down restaurant at Tytyri mine in Lohja, Finland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chef Niklas Ekblom, left, and restaurateur Timo Linnamaki preparing food at Muru Pop Down restaurant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Salem Waterfront Hotel & Marina — incl $394 base + $125 taxes & fees
INCLUDES downtown accom during Haunted Happenings Festival. Price per person based on family of 4. Departs Oct 21/ggv/ac.

Key West Air + 4 Nights $659
Doubletree Grand Key — incl $532 base + $127 taxes & fees
INCLUDES airfare to Miami, accom and 4-day car rental. ADD conch tour from $28.

New York Air + 3 Nights 4-Star $669
Andaz Wall Street — incl $559 base + $110 taxes & fees
INCLUDES Manhattan accom. Departs Nov 16, 21/ggv/aa. ADD Central Park movie sites tour for $25.

All-inclusive Vacations

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star
$503
Hotel Villa Cuba — incl $227 base + $276 taxes & fees
Departs Sep 13/nol/c6.

Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4.5-Star $605
Riu Merengue — incl $215 base + $390 taxes & fees
Departs Sep 26/swg/wg.

Panama 7 Nights 4-Star $631
Royal Decameron — incl $317 base + $314 taxes & fees
Departs Sep 17/nol/c6.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star $647
Holiday Inn Sunspree — incl $267 base + $380 taxes & fees
Departs Sep 22/nol/ts.

Cruise & Stay

Miami
Air + 4 Nights + 3-Night Cruise
$915
Norwegian Sky, Marco Polo Beach Resort — incl $699 base + $216 taxes & fees
INCLUDES all airfare, beachfront accom and cruise sailing roundtrip Miami visiting Great Stirrup Cay and Nassau. Departs Nov 14/ac/ncl/ggv.
UPGRADE to ocean view stateroom and 4-star Four Points Sheraton from $28 per night.

Canada

Halifax 3 Nights + Tours
$299
Atlantica Hotel — taxes & fees included
INCLUDES central accom, 1.5 hour sightseeing tour of Halifax, 3-hour whale watching tour and travel information kit. Travel Sep 17, 20/ggv.

Niagara Falls Family Special
3 Nights $78◊
Ramada Niagara Falls — taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom near Falls Avenue. Price per person based on family of 4. Travel Oct 2, 9/ggv.
UPGRADE to 4-star Sheraton on the Falls for $19 per night. ADD *Maid of the Mist* for $21. BOOK this package based on double occupancy for $159.

St-Andrews-By-The-Sea
3 Nights $228
Rossmount Inn — taxes & fees included
INCLUDES manor-style accom. Travel Oct 2, 9/ggv.
UPGRADE to 4-star Fairmont Algonquin for $40 per night.

Vancouver Air + 3 Nights $728
Inn at False Creek — incl $553 base + $175 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom near Granville Island. Departs Oct 4, 11/ggv/ac. UPGRADE to 4-star Carmana Plaza for $26 per night. ADD Capilano Suspension Bridge tour for $42.

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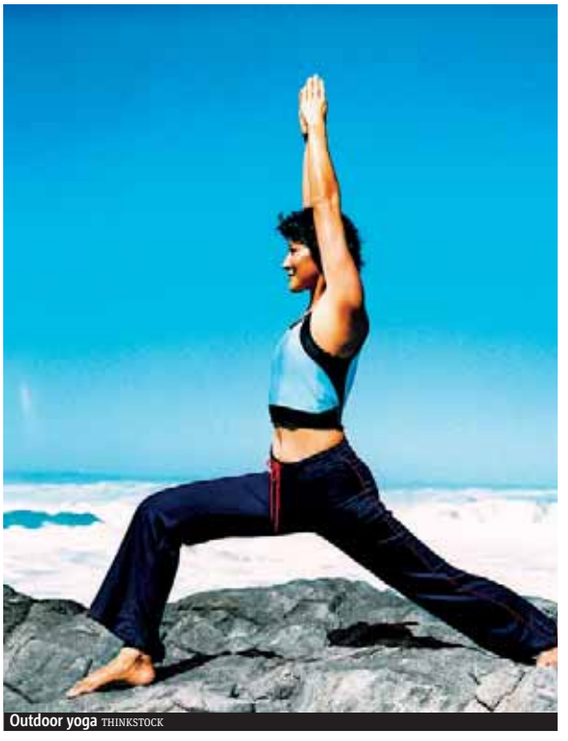
Welcome to sunny St. Lucia

Look at that photo. It could be you on this Caribbean island

ALISON BOWEN
Metro World News

Leave the work world behind in St. Lucia. THINKSTOCK

St. Lucia is the perfect place to feel utterly off the map. It's at the southern edge of the Caribbean — just 300 miles from South America's coastline. But from the second you land at Hewanorra International Airport, you will feel you're in another world — after hundreds of miles of ocean sliding by below you, suddenly the 383-square-kilometre island of rainforest-cloaked cliffs appears out of royal-blue waters. Here, even rain is called "liquid sunshine." So embrace the optimistic attitude and watch the sun dip closer to the water as tree frogs chirp and palm trees rustle.



Outdoor yoga THINKSTOCK

Go solo

For an invigorating individual getaway, consider The Body Holiday, which has rooms for couples but also caters heavily to singles needing a life overhaul or just a simple trip to recharge. The entire month of September is even devoted to singles — in honour of National Singles Month, the resort is offering September Solos from Sept. 2 to Sept. 30, starting at $450 per person per night. Maybe you'll even make some new friends — the resort offers group sunset cruises and concerts, and at every dining venue are communal tables where you can pull up a chair for conversation. The resort purposely has an open-air Miami feel to allow the ocean breeze to touch every part of the resort, whether you're having breakfast or relaxing in the infinity pool.

The hotel's promise to guests? "Give us your body for a week, and we'll give you back your mind."

Rendezvous for two

Have you ever been on vacation, ready to sidle up to your plus-one in the pool, tropical drink in hand, only to duck when a kid cannonballs over you?

That sort of romantic mood spoiling is nonexistent at Rendezvous, a couples-only resort in St. Lucia.

The phrase "couples-only" may conjure images of awkward double dinner dates with strangers, but at Rendezvous, it simply means rose petals scattered underneath massage tables and employees scuttling around the seven-acre grounds clutching champagne glasses and chocolates. Rendezvous encourages those recovering from city stress to focus on nothing but emerald water and waves — whether dining seaside or sitting in a hot tub and sneaking a glance at the sunset through palm leaves.

Get to know your partner better as you bond over your ability to stretch into yoga positions or make like Cupid and practice your bow and arrow skills at the archery range.

Explore the island

If you like an off-resort adventure, consider a visit to En Bas Saut. This is not for the faint of heart, nor the impatient. It's a two-hour drive from Rendezvous, up twisty curves (bring the Dramamine), past houses nestled into cliffs and over a dirt, rock-studded road. Smith Philip, a friendly local guide who greets you with a walking stick, will distract you from the 1,000 feet down into the rainforest by telling you the history of St. Lucia. And take you to a waterfall.

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CIBC FOR WHAT MATTERS.

Nix the coconut bras, Hawaii tourism gets a touch of authenticity

Real deal. Hawaii's tourism industry is setting the facts straight — and educating visitors about island culture

Fire knife dancing is often mistaken for Hawaiian even though it's a Samoan invention. LUCY PEMONI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disney's Aulani resort's staff speak Hawaiian. AUDREY MCAVOY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coconut bras aren't Hawaiian. Neither are grass skirts. Tiki bars? They're from California. Yet they're all among the most recognizable symbols of a Hawaiian vacation.

Now, many resorts in Hawaii are hoping to change those images, edging away from these kitschy marketing inventions and toward real-life Hawaiian traditions that can make the trip to the islands more special for travellers.

Driving the movement, in part, is economics. Tourism leaders know Hawaii needs to highlight what makes the islands unique to compete with other sun-and-surf destinations like Florida, Mexico and Thailand.

But the turn is also the latest sign of a Native Hawaiian renaissance with more locals studying Hawaiian language, reviving traditional styles of hula and learning ancient skills like using stars to navigate the ocean.

"It's about having that sense of place — understanding who went before us, understanding that Waikiki is a place where we are so deep seated in our culture. And now, there's this resurgence to share it with our guests," said Kehaulani Kam, cultural services director at Starwood Hotels and Resorts Waikiki.

The trend may help improve the dim view many Native Hawaiians have of tourism, the state's largest industry and biggest employer. A 2010 state survey found nearly 60 per cent of them don't believe it helps preserve their language and culture.

The disdain was captured in a Saturday Night Live skit in 2009 that drew protests from state officials and praise from others as good satire.

In it, Dwayne The Rock Johnson and Fred Armisen play two underpaid entertainers in grass skirts at a Kauai restaurant. Johnson performs a sloppy dance resembling hula and Armisen strums the ukulele. Both sing in gibberish that tourists may think is Hawaiian.

Tourists watching the performance drink tropical cocktails and gush about how happy they are to be in Hawaii, oblivious to the facade.

The misconceptions come from the way Hawaii is marketed and presented to outsiders. Travellers, who see vacation brochures with photos of grass skirts, coconut bras, Samoan fire-knife dancing and Tahitian hula dancers, naturally get the impression these are Hawaiian traditions.

The prominence of many of the images can be traced to the arrival of tiki bars in Hawaii — from California.

Trader Vic's and Don the Beachcomber restaurants started the bars on the mainland in the 1930s displaying replicas of Polynesian deities and artifacts from around the Pacific. Trader Vics opened its first Honolulu storefront in 1941, and Don the Beachcomber followed after the Second World War.

"In the '50s, nighttime shows here shifted from being just Hawaiian, which they had been previously, to Polynesian. That's when you get a knife dancer, torch guys, Tahitian hula," said DeSoto Brown, a historian at Bishop Museum.

The Hawaii Tourism Authority is distributing a new guide to advertisers, travel reporters and others involved in disseminating information about Hawaii that attempts to clarify what is and isn't Hawaiian.

The agency wants people to identify a fire knife dance as Samoan and Tahitian hula as Tahitian when they use photos of various performances. If people want to show Hawaiian hula, they should be sure that's what's depicted in the images.

Keli'ihoalani Wilson, the agency's cultural director, said the aim isn't to knock other Polynesian traditions, but avoid confusion.

"It's all positive stuff. No scolding. Just helping," Wilson said.

For Lori Sablas, the cultural director at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel on Maui, it is about accuracy. "My mandate is: 'How do Hawaiians think? How do Hawaiians act?' Let's not change it. Let's not make it up," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What Disney did...

The Walt Disney Co., a master of creating make-believe worlds, has taken the concept further. The global entertainment giant chose Hawaii as the location for its first major stand-alone resort that isn't a theme park. Instead of building a Cinderella castle, Disney designed the hotel Aulani around the idea of telling guests about Native Hawaiian culture. One of the hotel's bars — the Olelo Room — has Hawaiian words on the wall, and its bartenders and wait staff speak Hawaiian.

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New York museum brings to life a mythical place created by a tobacco heiress' whimsy

Doris Duke exhibit. Show boasts plethora of Islamic artifacts that 'the richest girl in the world' acquired throughout her life

Shangri La calls to mind a secluded paradise, an exotic place that evokes the mysteries of the ancient Orient.

For the late philanthropist and art collector Doris Duke, her five-acre retreat in Honolulu was that place. She used the name of the mythical oasis for her earthly slice of Eden on the edge of the Pacific Ocean and filled it with the art and architecture of the Islamic world that enthralled her all her life.

A selection of the artifacts she assembled is being shown for the first time outside the estate at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York. Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape and Islamic Art opened Friday to celebrate the year of her 100th birthday and runs through Jan. 6. It also will travel to North Carolina, where her father was born and where her family made its fortune.

The exhibit is intended to give a wider audience a look at the interplay among Shangri La's modernist 1930s architecture, its oceanside Hawaiian locale and the tobacco heiress' Islamic art collection, said Deborah Pope, director of the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, which acquired the title to Shangri La after Duke's death.

Duke created the foundation in her will to promote the study and understanding of Islamic culture; Shangri La serves as a centre for Islamic arts and cultures and is open for public tours.

"The ability to be absolutely modern and to seamlessly incorporate Islamic tradition is what makes Shangri La so alive an environment and so relevant today," she said.

Shangri La is a 14,000-square-foot house on a sprawling complex that includes a guesthouse, 75-foot-long saltwater pool, terraces, lawns, gardens and water features. The exhibit features large-scale digital screens of newly commissioned photographs by Tim Street-Porter of its exterior and interior. Many of the objects in the show are seen in the photos as they appear in the elaborately appointed Islamic-inspired rooms and courtyards, giving a wonderful sense of what it must have been like to live among such opulence.

Duke first fell in love with Islamic art and architecture on her honeymoon in 1935. The willowy and beautiful 22-year-old bride and her groom, James Cromwell, travelled throughout the Middle East and South Asia, finishing up in Hawaii where, captivated by its beauty, they decided to build Shangri La.

Duke was raised in a Fifth Avenue mansion in Manhattan and was the only daughter of tobacco magnate John Buchanan Duke. She was only 12 when she inherited $100 million upon his death, and was quickly dubbed "the richest girl in the world."

She shunned publicity all her life, and Shangri La was built in Hawaii in large part so she could avoid the glare of the media.

Duke had one daughter who died shortly after birth and adopted an adult woman in the 1980s from whom she became estranged a few years later.

Exhibition co-curator Tom Mellins described Shangri La as an "inventive synthesis" of the traditional and modern. As Duke collected historic works, she commissioned new ones too, from artists in India, Morocco, Iran and Syria, Pope said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

Doris Duke's Shangri-La. Through Feb. 17, 2013 at Museum of Arts and Design, 2 Columbus Circle, Manhattan; madmuseu.org or 212-299-7777. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Adults, $15; students and seniors, $12; children 12 and under, free. The exhibition also will travel to the Norton Museum in West Palm Beach, Fla.; the Nasher Museum at Duke University in Durham, N.C.; the University of Michigan Museum of Art; the Los Angeles Municipal Gallery; the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno; and the Academy of Art in Honolulu.

The Syrian room at Doris Duke's Shangri La, in Honolulu. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A footed basin from Spain that dates back to the early 16th Century is just one of Doris Duke's pieces that are on display. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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5 HOT SPOTS FOR MUSIC

If you like to "play it loud," these music venues around the world should be on your hit list.

PROVOCATIVE: THE PARADISO, AMSTERSDAM

Things really heat up at this concert hall housed in a converted 19th-century church in Amsterdam. Described as "seriously fierce," this venue's main concert hall in the former church interior seats 1,500 and has high ceilings, two balcony rings and large illuminated church windows. Check the website for the concert lineup, or Paradiso is a popular dance club, too. "You think you know how to party?" wrote one visitor. "Do you? You're wrong. I did, and then I came here."

MYSTERIOUS: THE GREEK THEATER, LOS ANGELES

"When you're at the Greek, there's this type of mystical feeling you get among the crowd," writes one visitor.

L.A.'s premier outdoor theatre is tucked into the corner of Griffith Park, but don't let the picturesque setting fool you. This place is made for noise.

The 5,900-seat venue has amazing sound because of its natural acoustics — the park is actually a canyon. Named "North America's Best Small Outdoor Venue," Pearl Jam, Death Cab for Cutie, Florence & the Machine, The White Stripes, Jack Johnson, and Gotye have all played there recently.

DARE TO EXPLORE: PRIVILEGE, IBIZA, SPAIN

"This isn't a club … it's a whole other world!"

Privilege is the world's largest nightclub with a main room the size of an aircraft hangar. Ibiza is an island in the Mediterranean Sea that has a red hot reputation for its nightlife.

Dance to top rappers and DJs (the DJ booth is suspended above the dance floor) or explore what's around every corner of the club … a swimming pool, acrobats, huge video installations, state of the art lights, lasers, dance troupes, and more.

MICRO EXPERIENCE: THE PHOG LOUNGE, WINDSOR, ONT.

"Phog" is a small lounge in Windsor with a devout following of some of Canada's hippest electronica, free-form jazz and indie rock bands.

"Phog is truly passionate and curious about music," said Casey Laforet of Canada's critically acclaimed Elliot Brood.

Named "Best Live Music Venue in Canada," there is now an annual Phog-Phest in the fall where the street out front is closed off for a daylong celebration of indie music. Rural Alberta Advantage headlines there Sept. 15.

EXPERIMENTATION: THE READING FESTIVAL, READING, ENGLAND

Join 87,000 other rock, indie, punk and metal aficionados in tents on Little John's Farm for this three-day music festival every August.

But you have to plan ahead — tickets go on sale in December and sell out fast. The big stage is for major rock, indie, metal and alternative acts, but check out the smaller Lock Up Stage for underground punk and hardcore acts, and a stage for unsigned acts.

"It's about the magic of creating a self-contained world in the middle of a field with thousands of strangers who become your best friends."

5 Gum. Stimulate Your Senses.

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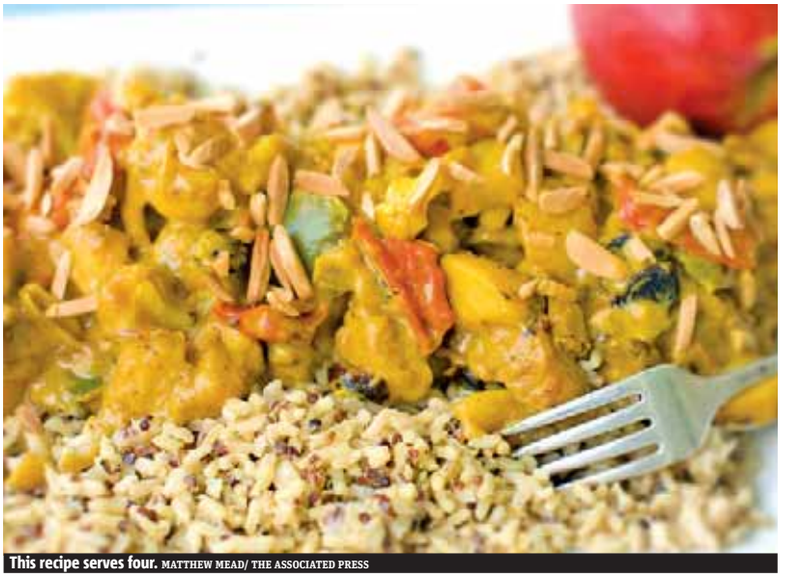
Sweet & savoury team up in Creamy Apple Curry Chicken

When you think curry, chances are potatoes and chicken come to mind. But you also should consider apples.

Though not necessarily a traditional touch for curry, apples work deliciously well with the big, spicy flavours of the dish. In fact, there is very little that is traditional about the curry assembled here, but we're not all that worried about it. It's so delicious, the name almost seems irrelevant.

A quick sauté of vegetables and chicken — along with those aforementioned apples — is tied together with a creamy curry sauce. To keep the autumnal feel, throw in some dried cranberries and top it with toasted almonds. If you don't want to serve it over rice, you could opt for egg noodles.



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
- 1 large yellow onion, cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 each green and red bell pepper, cored and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 2 cups cauliflower florets
- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut into bite-size cubes
- 3 medium apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 2 tbsp curry powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 3 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup toasted almonds

1. In a large, deep skillet over medium-high heat, melt the butter. Add the onion and sauté until tender, about 7 minutes. Add both bell peppers, cauliflower and chicken. Cook until the vegetables are just tender and the chicken is cooked through, about 10 to 12 minutes.

2. Add the apples, curry powder, salt and pepper. Cook until the apples are just tender, about 3 to 5 minutes.

3. Sprinkle the flour over everything, stirring to coat. Add the milk and cranberries, stirring and cooking until the sauce comes to a simmer and thickens. Serve sprinkled with toasted almonds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Loads of pork flavour with very little effort

Weeknight cooking is all about getting gobs of flavour from just a few ingredients, no special techniques and as little effort as possible. That's the idea behind this Mirin Pork Chops with Apple Chutney.

You'll find mirin (a kind of rice wine) in the Asian or international sections of most grocers. The chutney should be nearby, too.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 cup mirin
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 2 lbs pork tenderloin, halved lengthwise and pounded evenly flat
- 1 tbsp butter
- 2 medium apples, peeled, cored and diced
- 1 small yellow onion, diced
- 10 1/2-oz jar sweet chutney (such as mango)

1. In bowl, whisk mirin, garlic powder and salt. Add the pork and turn to coat well. Refrigerate until ready to cook.

2. Heat grill to high. Using vegetable oil-soaked paper towel held with tongs, oil grill grates. Reduce heat to medium and add pork. Grill 6 minutes per side. Set aside.

3. In skillet over medium-high heat, melt butter. Add apples and onion and sauté until just tender, about 5 minutes. Remove pan from the heat and stir in the chutney.

4. To serve, thinly slice pork and top servings with apple chutney. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Pretty in pink punch

- 1 can (295 ml) pink lemonade frozen concentrate (unthawed)
- 1 can (250 ml) strawberry daiquiri frozen concentrate (unthawed)
- 250 ml (1 cup) white rum (optional)
- 250 ml (1 cup) water
- 1 l (4 cups) ice cubes
- Sliced strawberries, for garnish

In blender, combine pink lemonade and daiquiri frozen concentrates, rum, if using, and water; add ice cubes. Pulse until blended and frothy, about 1 minute. Float berries on the surface for a special garnish. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ MINUTEMAID.CA

Cash in on your career

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LEAH RUEHLICKE
TalentEgg.ca

True richness can be found in experience. ISTOCK

Experience is key.

It's not what you know, but who you know.

Be open to other options.

These job search strategies – we've all heard them before – sound like a cliché, but they have a wealth of truth ringing through them.

With the summer break now in full swing (I don't think I ever fully appreciated how lucky I was as a student to have summer holidays beginning in April), students will be thinking about landing a position that can give them solid experience in their field.

A recent Accountemps survey found that 78 per cent of more than 270 CFOs (chief financial officers) interviewed believe it is important for entry-level accounting and finance candidates to have gained work experience while in school.

"Even for entry level roles, many employers are in search of new hires who can apply their previous experience and contribute to the organization immediately," says Kathryn Bolt, Canadian president of Accountemps.

"Although this may seem like a catch-22, where it's difficult to land a job without experience or gain experience without a job, candidates who have internships or temporary assignments on their resume are more marketable to a prospective company."

How to get experience while you're still a student:

Network, network, network
Make connections through classes, summer jobs, internships, volunteer placements, etc., and stay in touch with these people. Never underestimate the power of who you know.

Be involved
Participating in groups related to your field will expand your network and give you further experience. However, do not just join — look for opportunities to take on leadership roles. It is important not only to be involved, but to stand out.

Consider temporary work
This can be a way to obtain work experience while meeting prospective employers and getting your foot in with different companies.

Land an internship
Internships give you direct, resumé-worthy experience and often lead into full-time employment.

Volunteer
Find roles that align with your professional goals, if possible. Therefore, if you are an accounting major, consider acting as the treasurer for a student group that interests you. This not only acts as applicable experience, but also helps you discover your strengths in the field you are pursuing.

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@ashillington
Be confident. Don't be intimidated by other students. Talk career, not job. Bring your card. Dress professionally but not boring.

@voiceofjamesd
Do research, ask relevant qu's, show personality, dress to impress, don't hang out in groups & enjoy it! #PwCBF

@CGA_DoMore
Listening is just as crucial as speaking. Above all prepare and be yourself. The rest will follow... #DOMORE #CGA #AccountingWeek

Size it up. Go big or go small when finding your firm?

When searching for a job at an accounting firm, there are many factors to consider, such as location, types of responsibilities and training.

Another important factor to consider is the size of the firm. Accounting firms can vary in size from one to more than 10,000 people, and it's important to make the choice that will best fit your personality, your career goals and your lifestyle.

Although the experience at each firm may be different, we spoke with recent grads who are now working in accounting about their experiences to help you decide where you'll fit in.

Work-life balance
Large firms often have big groups of 40 or more new accountants starting at once, which means the competition can be higher than at smaller firms. Alissa Kahn, an accountant at a mid-sized firm of about 90 people, says she's lucky she doesn't have that much competition. "With so many people starting at the same level at once, there is a lot of pressure to compete and work overtime. At my smaller firm, I don't really experience that same pressure."

Learning opportunities
However, since so many new accountants start their jobs at once in large accounting firms, it also means the firms tend to invest a lot of time and money in classroom-type training and mentoring, which small firms cannot usually do. "I did not get as much textbook training and I had to really learn on the job. It's good for my career, but it's tough in the beginning," says Kahn.

At larger firms, you may also work in groups or teams and have joint tasks and clients. This is great if you like working in a team and enjoy having multiple perspectives on a project.

Bigger not always better

"With so many people starting at the same level at once, there is a lot of pressure to compete and work overtime."
Accountant Alissa Kahn

Training
While learning on the job will help give you hands-on knowledge in the accounting field, you have to depend on your supervisors to train you. "Most of the time the people that are supposed to be training you are very busy handling their own workloads and don't have time to teach you everything which can be frustrating," says Yoel Hofman, an accountant in a small firm of 25 employees.

VICKY TOBIANAH IS A JOURNALIST AND FREELANCE WRITER WITH AN HONOURS BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE FROM MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

Take this to the bank

Trying to account for where your future of number crunching and fast calculating is going to take you?

- On average, accounting grads with between zero and three years of experience can expect to earn somewhere between $35,500 and $75,500 depending on your role, whether you're working in public or corporate accounting, and whether you're working for a large or midsize/small firm or company.

- Cassandra Jowett

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Student Voice

Break down the walls between students and employers

Fahad Meer
Graduate
Honours Bachelor of Commerce
McMaster University

TalentEgg.ca

I graduated from McMaster University in 2011 and joined PwC as an Associate in the Audit & Assurance Group based in the Toronto office.

Coming out of university, where I had a very tightly knit group of friends, the one thing I was most afraid of was change. However, I quickly learned after I joined the firm that change is not necessarily a bad thing and definitely not as scary as it seems. Because of all the extra-curricular activities I took part in at McMaster, I was confident and ready to launch my career. Lucky for me, I was able to join a firm that supported, which made the school to work transition, seamless.

If I were to look back at my transition from carrying a backpack to now a briefcase, the one thing that I would not change is getting outside my comfort zone. When I was a student, I explored new chances to make me a more confident and well-rounded person. These are two essential characteristics that employers are looking for.

Where I am now

As an Associate, I am fulfilling my dream of adding value to my clients on a daily basis. I'm also learning more everyday about the accounting and business world, while writing exams to obtain my Chartered Accountant (CA) designation.

Besides auditing, I'm passionate about giving back to people and coaching young students and professionals in their respective careers. As PwC's national recruiting blogger and one of only six people chosen to represent PwC in its campus branding, I do just that by allowing others to learn from my personal stories of success and failure both via my blog posts and through speeches I deliver at various universities across the GTA.

In my spare time, I volunteer by serving as the CFO (chief financial officer) and Career Coach for a new start-up NPO (non-profit organization) called Canada Pakistan Professionals Association (CPPA). At CPPA, I oversee their finances, as well as provide young professionals with advice and support.

My recommendations for employers, career centres and schools

My recommendation for employers, career centres or schools is to really find ways to connect with students more personally and give them with tailored support.

My recommendations for students

My advice for students and recent grads would be to never see failure as a hindrance to their end goals, but rather a catalyst and a motivator to go above and beyond their own expectations. The reason why I am reasonably successful today is because I made mistakes in my past and learned from them.

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League, players both to blame for labour strife: Daly

NHL. Lockout, which appears certain, would be league's fourth work stoppage since 1992

NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly says the owners and players are both to blame for their failure to reach a new collective bargaining agreement before the Saturday deadline for a work stoppage.

Daly wrote in an email to The Associated Press that he hoped both sides would meet before Saturday. "But to this point, we have received no indication that the union has anything new to say to us. And right now, we have nothing new to say to them," he wrote Tuesday. "It's unfortunate, but it's the reality of the situation."

The NHL's labour contract expires at midnight Saturday night, and a lockout appears certain. It would be the league's fourth work stoppage since 1992.

"Ultimately, we just want to negotiate a fair deal that will give all our clubs an ability to be stable and healthy," he wrote. "We hoped (and still hope) we can do that without causing any interruption to the upcoming season. Logic would have suggested we would have been able to. The fact that we haven't yet is extremely disappointing, and is a failure for which we both must share blame."

More than 250 players are set to attend the NHLPA meetings Wednesday and Thursday in New York to discuss the current state of CBA negotiations.

The board of governors will meet Thursday at the NHL offices in New York and could authorize commissioner Gary Bettman to proceed with a lockout on Saturday if a new collective bargaining agreement hasn't been reached.

Donald Fehr, who took over as union head two years ago, said his players are resigned to a work stoppage, which would follow lockouts last year in the NFL and the NBA. Many of those players will gather in Manhattan this week in this off-season's biggest show of force.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

All's quiet

- The sides haven't had a full bargaining session since Aug. 31 and the strife is threatening regular-season openers scheduled to start Oct. 11.
- The preseason is set to begin on Sept. 19.

NHL

Bruins extend Seguin's contract

The Boston Bruins have signed centre Tyler Seguin to a six-year, $34-million US contract extension.

Seguin had 29 goals and 67 points last season for Boston — both team highs — in just his second NHL season. The 20-year-old had a plus-34 rating, second in the league behind teammate Patrice Bergeron, and played in the 2012 all-star game.

MLB

McCarthy home after surgery

Oakland Athletics pitcher Brandon McCarthy was released from a Bay Area hospital Tuesday, less than a week after getting hit in the head by a line drive and undergoing surgery.

And he said he plans to return to baseball once he regains full strength in the coming months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jaso down and out at the plate

Blue Jays catcher J.P. Arencibia tags out Seattle Mariners' John Jaso at home plate, Tuesday, in Toronto. For game results, visit metronews.ca/sports.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

Not many fighters wanted to step into the cage in Toronto against light-heavyweight champion Jon 'Bones' Jones for the upcoming UFC 152, according to UFC boss Dana White. But Brazilian fighter Vitor Belfort was game, saying he still fights "for pleasure" at age 35. Scan the code for the story.

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Mariner vows TFC will fight to bitter end of season

MLS. Toronto coach says he understands fans' frustration after 'embarrassing' season

Paul Mariner bristles at the notion the games are now meaningless.

Sure, the Toronto FC head coach is aware of his club's dead-last position in the standings. He knows mathematical elimination is coming, as early as Wednesday, from a playoff race they were never really in thanks to an 0-9 start — the worst in Major League Soccer history.

He gets that hopes of another dream run in CONCACAF Champions League faded two weeks with the conceding of a pair of late goals at home to Mexico's Santos Laguna.

But Mariner insists everything from pride to contracts for next season is on the line as TFC returns to the pitch for the last nine games of 2012.

"This is the final push for us," Mariner told Torstar News Service ahead of Wednesday's match at BMO Field against the Chicago Fire. "I want to win every single game we go into.

"There's none of this winding down garbage. If anything, we want to ratchet it up because we don't want to be in this position. It's embarrassing.

"I completely understand how the fans feel. It's up to us to put it right."

The playoffs are as elusive as ever for Toronto FC, six years on. The optimism and hope of fans in early spring has given way to bitterness, anger and, most alarmingly for club owners Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment, fewer fans making their way to BMO Field.

Social media are abuzz with fans debating whether to renew season tickets, once difficult to get. The announcement last month by the expansion Montreal Impact that their season-ticket prices will be reduced by an average of 15 per cent for 2013 has led many Toronto supporters to demand a similar cut for the long-suffering faithful here.

Mariner, like most observers, believes the most significant way to restore the atmosphere at what was once one of the best parks in the league is winning.

"I know what this city needs. It needs their team to be successful," said Mariner, who became the club's seventh head coach in six seasons when he replaced Aron Winter on June 7. "And, there's nobody who wants success more than we do.

"Every coach needs time. I promise you, we're not far away." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Triplets

Life has just changed for new parent Milos Kocic. Three times.

- At 9 p.m. Sunday, the Toronto FC goalkeeper went from husband to parent of three in one fell swoop as wife Evelyn delivered triplets.
- The oldest is a girl named Soleil. Then there are two boys: Leo (or Lionel as in Barcelona star Lionel Messi) and another Milos. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto FC coach Paul Mariner. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

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MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	79	61	.564	—
Baltimore	78	62	.557	1
Tampa Bay	77	63	.550	2
Toronto	64	75	.460	14½
Boston	63	78	.447	16½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	76	64	.543	—
Detroit	73	67	.521	3
Kansas City	63	77	.450	13
Cleveland	59	82	.418	17½
Minnesota	59	82	.418	17½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	83	57	.593	—
Oakland	80	60	.571	3
Los Angeles	77	64	.546	6½
Seattle	67	74	.475	16½

Tuesday's results
Tampa Bay at Baltimore
Seattle at Toronto
N.Y. Yankees at Boston
Cleveland at Texas
Detroit at Chicago White Sox
Kansas City at Minnesota
Oakland at L.A. Angels
Monday's results
Chicago White Sox 6 Detroit 1
Minnesota 7 Cleveland 2
Oakland 3 L.A. Angels 1
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Tampa Bay (Cobb 9-8) at Baltimore (Mig.Gonzalez 6-4), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Millwood 5-12) at Toronto (R.Romero 8-13), 7:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (D.Phelps 3-4) at Boston (A.Cook 3-9), 7:10 p.m.
Cleveland (J.Gomez 5-7) at Texas (Dempster 5-1), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Scherzer 15-6) at Chicago White Sox (Floyd 9-9), 8:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Hochevar 7-13) at Minnesota (Walters 2-3), 8:10 p.m.
Oakland (Griffin 5-0) at L.A. Angels (E.Santana 8-11), 10:05 p.m.
Thursday's games
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 12:35 p.m.
Oakland at L.A. Angels, 3:35 p.m.
Seattle at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Kansas City at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	87	54	.617	—
Atlanta	81	61	.570	6½
Philadelphia	70	71	.496	17
New York	65	76	.461	22
Miami	63	79	.444	24½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	85	57	.599	—
St. Louis	75	66	.532	9½
Pittsburgh	72	68	.514	12
Milwaukee	70	71	.496	14½
Chicago	55	86	.390	29½
Houston	44	97	.312	40½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	79	62	.560	—
Los Angeles	74	67	.525	5
Arizona	69	72	.489	10
San Diego	67	75	.472	12½
Colorado	57	83	.407	21½

Tuesday's results
Miami at Philadelphia
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati
Washington at N.Y. Mets
Chicago Cubs at Houston
Atlanta at Milwaukee
San Francisco at Colorado
L.A. Dodgers at Arizona
St. Louis at San Diego
Monday's results
Chicago Cubs 4 Houston 1
Cincinnati 4 Pittsburgh 3 (14 inns.)
Colorado 6 San Francisco 5
Milwaukee 4 Atlanta 1
Philadelphia 3 Miami 1
San Diego 11 St. Louis 3
Washington 5 N.Y. Mets 1
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Miami (Jo.Johnson 8-11) at Philadelphia (Cl.Lee 4-7), 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Lohse 14-2) at San Diego (Richard 12-12), 6:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (A.J.Burnett 15-6) at Cincinnati (H.Bailey 10-9), 7:10 p.m.
Washington (Lannan 2-0) at N.Y. Mets (Harvey 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (T.Wood 5-11) at Houston (Abad 0-3), 8:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Maholm 12-9) at Milwaukee (Gallardo 14-8), 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Lincecum 8-14) at Colorado (Francis 5-4), 8:40 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Harang 9-8) at Arizona (Cahill 10-11), 9:40 p.m.
Thursday's games
Philadelphia at Houston, 8:05 p.m.
St. Louis at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

NFL

WEEK ONE

Monday's results
Baltimore 44 Cincinnati 13
San Diego 22 Oakland 14
Sunday's results
Arizona 20 Seattle 16
Atlanta 40 Kansas City 24
Denver 31 Pittsburgh 19
Detroit 27 St. Louis 23
Chicago 41 Indianapolis 21
Houston 30 Miami 10
Minnesota 26 Jacksonville 23 (OT)
New England 34 Tennessee 13
N.Y. Jets 48 Buffalo 28
Philadelphia 17 Cleveland 16
San Francisco 30 Green Bay 22
Tampa Bay 16 Carolina 10
Washington 40 New Orleans 32
Wednesday's result
Dallas 24 N.Y. Giants 17

WEEK TWO

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
Chicago at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Arizona at New England, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Houston at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Miami, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Washington at St. Louis, 4:05 p.m.
Tennessee at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 4:25 p.m.
Detroit at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 17
Denver at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

CFL

WEEK 11

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
Toronto	10	6	4	0	255	246	12
Montreal	10	6	4	0	273	310	12
Hamilton	10	3	7	0	290	339	6
Winnipeg	10	2	8	0	200	321	4

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
B.C.	10	7	3	0	270	181	14
Calgary	10	6	4	0	268	254	12
Saskatchewan	10	5	5	0	267	206	10
Edmonton	10	5	5	0	239	205	10

Sunday's result
Saskatchewan 25 Winnipeg 24
Saturday's results
B.C. 43 Montreal 10
Toronto 45 Hamilton 31
Friday's result
Calgary 20 Edmonton 18
WEEK 12
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
Winnipeg at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Edmonton at Hamilton, 3 p.m.
Toronto at B.C., 7 p.m.
Sunday's games
Saskatchewan at Montreal, 1 p.m.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 11
Offensive — Chad Kackert, RB, Toronto
Defensive — Jason Vega, DE, Winnipeg
Canadian — Jon Cornish, RB, Calgary
Special Teams — Demond Washington, KR/PR, Winnipeg

SCORING LEADERS

x — scored two-point convert

	TD	C	FG	S	Pts
McCallum, BC	0	28	22	4	98
Whyte, Mtl	0	28	19	5	90
Palardy, Wpg	0	14	24	4	90
Congi, Ham	0	29	19	2	88
Shaw, Edm	0	22	20	6	88
Paredes, Cal	0	25	18	0	79
x-C.Williams, Ham	11	2	0	0	68
Waters, Tor	0	9	16	2	59
Milo, Sask	0	16	11	9	58
Sheets, Sask	8	0	0	0	48
Whitaker, Mtl	8	0	0	0	48
DeAngelis, Sask	0	10	12	1	47
x-Lewis, Cal	7	2	0	0	44
Harris, BC	7	0	0	0	42
Walker, Ham	7	0	0	0	42
Prefontaine, Tor	0	5	10	3	37
Cornish, Cal	6	0	0	0	36
Dressler, Sask	6	0	0	0	36
x-Matthews, Wpg	5	2	0	0	32
Charles, Edm	5	0	0	0	30
Kackert, Tor	5	0	0	0	30
Boyd, Tor-Edm	4	0	0	0	24
Brink, Wpg	4	0	0	0	24
Bruce, BC	4	0	0	0	24
O.Jones, Ham	4	0	0	0	24
Lavoie, Mtl	4	0	0	0	24
Mitchell, Cal	4	0	0	0	24
Owens, Tor	4	0	0	0	24
x-Fantuz, Ham	3	2	0	0	20
V.Anderson, Mtl	3	0	0	0	18
Bratton, Mtl	3	0	0	0	18
Burnett, Edm	3	0	0	0	18
Gore, BC	3	0	0	0	18
S.Green, Mtl	3	0	0	0	18
Iannuzzi, BC	3	0	0	0	18
Inman, Tor	3	0	0	0	18
Joseph, Edm	3	0	0	0	18
Koch, Edm	3	0	0	0	18
Lulay, BC	3	0	0	0	18
McPherson, Mtl	3	0	0	0	18
Richardson, Mtl	3	0	0	0	18
Stamps, Edm	3	0	0	0	18
Taylor, Cal	3	0	0	0	18
Wilbur, Tor	0	5	3	1	15

TENNIS

WTA CHALLENGE BELL

At Quebec City
Singles
First Round
Barbora Zahlavova Strycova (6), Czech Republic, def. **Marie-Eve Pelletier, Repentigny, Que.**, 7-6 (2), 6-1.
Petra Martic (7), Croatia, def. Jessica Pegula, U.S., 6-4, 7-5.
Lauren Davis, U.S., def. **Stephanie Dubois, Laval, Que.**, 7-5, 6-3.
Anna Tatishvili, Georgia, def. Sesil Karatantcheva, Kazakhstan, 7-5, 1-6, 6-1.
Melanie Oudin, U.S., def. Irina Falconi, U.S., 7-5, 7-6 (6).
Petra Rampre, Slovenia, def. Michelle Larcher De Brito, Portugal, 6-2, 1-6, 6-3.

WTA TASHKENT OPEN

At Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Singles
First Round
Karin Knapp, Italy, def. Monica Niculescu (1), Romania, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.
Donna Vekic, Croatia, def. Magdalena Rybarikova (4), Slovakia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Alexandra Cadantu (5), Romania, def. Ekaterina Bychkova, Russia, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.
Bojana Jovanovski (6), Serbia, def. Dinah Pfizenmaier, Germany, 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.
Galina Voskoboeva (8), Kazakhstan, def. Vesna Dolonc, Serbia, 3-6, 6-1, 6-0.
Eva Birnerova, Czech Rep., def. Claire Feuerstein, France, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Eleni Daniilidou, Greece, def. Monica Puig, Puerto Rico, 6-4, 6-2.
Anna Chakvetadze, Russia, def. Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-3.
Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, def. Akgul Amanmuradova, Uzbekistan, 6-4, 6-3.
Misaki Doi, Japan, def. Julia Cohen, U.S., 6-3, 6-0.

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Selected the contracts of OF Endy Chavez and OF L.J. Hoes from Norfolk (IL). Designated RHP Kevin Gregg and INF Ryan Adams for assignment.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

HOUSTON ASTROS—Announced they have extended its player development contract with Oklahoma City (PCL) through the 2014 season.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Reinstated SS Dee Gordon from the 60-day DL. Recalled RHP Stephen Fife and INF-OF Elian Herrera from Albuquerque (PCL). Placed INF Adam Kennedy on the 60-day DL.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Announced they have extended its player development contract with Nashville (PCL) through the 2014 season.
ST. LOUIS CARINALS—Announced they have extended their player development contract with the Memphis (PCL) through the 2014 season.

NHL

BOSTON BRUINS—Agreed to terms with F Tyler Seguin on a six-year contract extension.
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Agreed to terms with D Michal Rozsival on a one-year contract.
WINNIPEG JETS—Agreed to terms with F Spencer Machacek.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Kansas City	27	15	7	5	34	24	50
New York	26	13	7	7	46	39	46
Houston	28	12	7	9	40	33	45
Chicago	26	13	8	5	35	31	44
Columbus	27	12	9	6	33	32	42
D.C. United	27	12	10	5	43	38	41
Montreal	29	12	14	3	43	46	39
New England	28	7	14	7	35	38	28
Philadelphia	25	7	13	5	25	30	26
Toronto	27	5	16	6	30	48	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-San Jose	27	16	6	5	56	33	53
Seattle	27	13	6	8	43	28	47
Real Salt Lake	29	14	11	4	38	32	46
Los Angeles	28	13	11	4	48	40	43
Vancouver	28	10	11	7	29	37	37
Dallas	29	8	12	9	34	38	33
Colorado	28	9	17	2	36	41	29
Chivas USA	26	7	12	7	21	41	28
Portland	27	7	14	6	27	46	27

x — clinched playoff berth.
Wednesday's game — All Times Eastern
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m. (rescheduled from July 21)
Friday's games
Houston at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 11 p.m.
Saturday's games
Philadelphia at Toronto, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Portland, 3:30 p.m.
Columbus at New York, 7 p.m.
New England at D.C. United, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
San Jose at Chivas USA, 10:30 p.m.

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

CONCACAF

Group A

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
Jamaica	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
U.S.	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Guatemala	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Antigua	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

Tuesday's results
At St. John's, Antigua
Antigua vs. Guatemala
At Columbus, Ohio
U.S. vs. Jamaica
GROUP B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
Mexico	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
Costa Rica	3	1	1	1	6	4	4
El Salvador	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Guyana	3	0	1	2	3	9	1

Tuesday's results
At Georgetown, Guyana
Guyana vs. El Salvador
At Mexico City
Mexico vs. Costa Rica
GROUP C

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
Canada	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**7**
Panama	3	2	0	1	3	1	6
Honduras	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Cuba	3	0	0	3	0	5	0

Tuesday's results
At Panama City
Panama vs. **Canada**
At San Pedro Sula, Honduras
Honduras vs. Cuba

ASIA

FINAL ROUND
Tuesday's results
GROUP A
Lebanon 1 Iran 0
Uzbekistan 2 South Korea 2
GROUP B
Japan 1 Iraq 0
Jordan 2 Australia 1

EUROPE

Tuesday's results
GROUP A
Belgium 1 Croatia 1
Scotland 1 Macedonia 1
Serbia 6 Wales 1
GROUP B
Bulgaria 1 Armenia 0
Italy 2 Malta 0
GROUP C
Austria 1 Germany 2
Sweden 2 Kazakhstan 0
GROUP D
Hungary 1 Netherlands 4
Romania 4 Andorra 0
Turkey 3 Estonia 0
GROUP E
Cyprus 1 Iceland 0
Norway 2 Slovenia 1
Switzerland 2 Albania 0
GROUP F
Israel 0 Russia 4
Northern Ireland 1 Luxembourg 1
Portugal 3 Azerbaijan 0
GROUP G
Bosnia-Herzegovina 4 Latvia 1
Greece 2 Lithuania 0
Slovakia 2 Liechtenstein 0
GROUP H
England 1 Ukraine 1
Poland 2 Moldova 0
San Marino 0 Montenegro 6
GROUP I
France 3 Belarus 1
Georgia 0 Spain 1

OCEANIA

FINAL ROUND
Tuesday's result
New Zealand 6 Solomon Islands 1

FRIENDLIES

Tuesday's results
Czech Republic 0 Finland 1
Ireland 4 Oman 1
Malaysia 0 Vietnam 2
South Africa 2 Mozambique 0
United Arab Emirates 3 Kuwait 0

NASL

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-San Antonio	25	13	5	7	43	21	46
x-Tampa Bay	25	11	7	7	33	30	40
x-Puerto Rico	25	10	8	7	29	25	37
x-Ft. Lauderdale	26	9	9	8	39	43	35
Carolina	24	9	8	7	39	42	34
Minnesota	25	7	8	10	29	30	31
Atlanta	25	5	12	8	30	44	23
Edmonton	25	5	12	8	22	29	23

x — clinched playoff berth.
Note: Three points for a win, one for a tie.
Tuesday's result
Puerto Rico at Minnesota
Wednesday's game — All Times Eastern
Carolina at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Fort Lauderdale at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Puerto Rico, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tampa Bay at Edmonton, 4 p.m.
Carolina at San Antonio, 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 19
San Antonio at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.

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HONDA

*Limited time lease offers for a maximum of 24 months at 0.99% lease APR available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 24 month term at 0.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $503.37 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $12,080.88. 48,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. See your Ontario Honda Dealer for a complete list of eligible vehicles. **Limited time purchase financing offers for a maximum of 36 months at 0.99% APR available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative Finance example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 36 month term at 0.99% APR and complete price of $27,765 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100) and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration], the monthly payment is $783.08. Cost of borrowing is $425.88 for a total finance obligation of $28,190.88. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. See your Ontario Honda Dealer for a complete list of eligible vehicles. ^$500 // $750 Gas Card offer applies only to retail customer purchase or lease agreements for new 2012 Honda Civic // Honda CR-V models concluded between September 1st and September 30th at participating Ontario Honda Dealers. $500 // $750 Gas Card offer includes GST, PST, HST, QST where applicable and consists of $500 // $500 Customer Incentive from Honda Canada Inc. for all 2012 Civic // 2012 CR-V models; plus $250 Customer Incentive from Individual Ontario Honda Dealers for 2012 CR-V models. †Receive 1.99% purchase financing on any new 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) for a maximum of 84 months available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Bi-weekly Finance example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $97 over an 84 month term at 1.99% APR, complete price of $16,520 [includes $1,495 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100 except Honda Civic DX), and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration]. Cost of borrowing is $1,190.42 for a total finance obligation of $17,710.42. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. ◊Limited time lease offers on a new 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. CR-V model shown is a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD with Optional Equipment (Model RM3H3CE). Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 48 month term at 2.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $287.99 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $3,879 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $17,702.52. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. ♦$4,000 customer cash incentive is valid on any new 2012 Honda Accord Sedan or Coupe // 2012 Honda Pilot // 2012 Honda Ridgeline models and 2012 Honda Odyssey LX when registered and delivered between September 1st and September 30th, 2012. Cash incentive is available for all Honda retail customers except customers who lease or finance through Honda Financial Services Inc. at a subvented rate of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Encore: It's just different

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Review. Buick drives home the point that the old ways are exactly that

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Generally, an encore follows a great performance. In Buick terms, that could mean the Verano or the Regal, but both of those are sedans, while the new Encore is a small tall wagon.

OK, we can just hear the quips now, likely involving an Enclave wagon that has been left in the dryer a little too long. However, the Encore is a uniquely practical vehicle that can hold lots of gear and can hold its own in the horsepower and fuel-consumption departments. Also adding to its versatility is the availability of all-wheel-drive.

The fact that it approximates a scaled-down version of the Enclave is far from being a bad thing. From its oval-shaped "waterfall" grille to the tip of its two-tone bumper, the Encore features a neat blend of stylish design cues with just a hint of ruggedness. That should help broaden the car's appeal to buyers much younger than Buick's traditional core audience.

The Encore is based on the same platform used by Buick's Verano sedan plus Chevrolet's Cruze and Sonic small cars. However, it's about 18 centimetres longer and 13 centimetres taller than the Sonic hatchback, thereby giving it far more cargo room with the rear seat in place or folded flat. Not as much room back there as a Hyundai Tucson or even a Toyota Matrix, but the front passenger seat does fold flat so that longer items such as ladders, hockey sticks and building materials can be accommodated.

With its diminutive size, crisp styling and clever interior packaging, this is one Encore that has been long overdue.

Engine

Getting the Encore up to speed is the responsibility of a 1.4-litre turbocharged, four-cylinder engine that generates 140 horsepower and 148 pound-feet of torque. Both the Chevrolet Sonic and Cruze also employ this powerplant, which runs on regular gas and not premium.

A six-speed automatic is the Encore's only available transmission. For this application, a "steeper" first gear helps improve off-the-line performance while a "taller" sixth gear causes the engine to loaf along at lower engine revs at highway speeds for more fuel-efficient operation. Official consumption numbers aren't out just yet, but should approach the Cruze's 7.2/4.6 city/highway l/100 km rating.

A six-speed automatic transmission and turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder are standard.

Quiet ride

The cabin has a feature called "active noise cancellation." The system uses ceiling-mounted microphones that detect offending droning sounds. A special computer then creates counteracting sound waves through the audio-system speakers. It's a system that's commonly found on more expensive vehicles.

2013 Buick Encore

- **Type.** Four-door, front/all-wheel-drive compact wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.4-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (140).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy): 7.2/4.9 (est.).
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $23,000 (est.).

A ladder? The Encore is a small ride that hauls big-and-tall stuff when the front passenger seat is folded flat. For perspective, it doesn't have quite as much room as a Hyundai Tucson.

It's certainly like no other Buick you've ever seen.

By comparison

1 Nissan Juke
Base price: $21,600

2 Mazda CX-5
Base price: $24,900

3 Toyota Matrix
Base price: $18,400

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

5 new cars to watch

The autumnal exercise of automotive euphoria is in high gear as the 2013 models begin to arrive. This year's battle for your bucks crosses all boundaries, from the racy and pricey, to the inexpensive and eco-friendly. But which vehicles are the most anticipated? We have five hot prospects for you.

TODD D. BURLAGE
Wheelbase Media

1 Acura ILX

With a growing appeal for efficiency and affordability in a premium-car wrapper, it makes a whole lot of sense for Acura to add the ILX as a lower-cost point of entry into this brand.

The premium compact ILX can actually be had in a gasoline-electric hybrid derivative, making it the first such vehicle to carry the Acura name.

Expect most ILX buyers to opt for the traditional 2.4-litre four-cylinder paired with a conventional automatic transmission, all in a thinly veiled spinoff of parent Honda's Civic Si.

From door handles, sharper styling and more cabin comfort, the ILX features some subtle differences from the Civic, but the platform is similar.

2 Cadillac ATS

This General Motors division has come around to the idea that bigger isn't always better, so it developed the ATS to try and find a place alongside the top sporty compact sedans such as the BMW 3-series.

The ATS is not simply a cut-down version of the larger CTS. Lead designer Dave Leone's vision for the ATS partnered a light and compact body, with the power of rear- and all-wheel drive, along with a front strut suspension — much like that of the BMW 3-series — to improve steering performance over the CTS.

The ATS offers three engine types: the entry-level 2.5-litre four-cylinder; a 2.0-litre four-cylinder turbo; and the attack-style 3.6-litre V6 rated at 321 horsepower.

3 Chevrolet Spark

Chevy is touting the Spark as "the driving solution for city living" in the manufacturer's hope that this stylish and affordable entry will clobber the micro-car market.

Small on size but big on technology and creature comforts, one of the Spark's greatest features is its ability to slide into tight parking spaces where few cars have gone before. Ten standard airbags also offer safety assurance in a small vehicle.

The 1.2-litre four-cylinder engine delivers about 6.0 l/100 km on the highway. Good, but not spectacular as some larger cars are rated better. Expect pricing to be less than micro-car competitors from 2012, such as the Scion iQ and the Fiat 500 Pop.

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE MEDIA

4 Subaru BRZ

It's billed as a collaborative effort between Subaru and Toyota that carries characteristics of each brand.

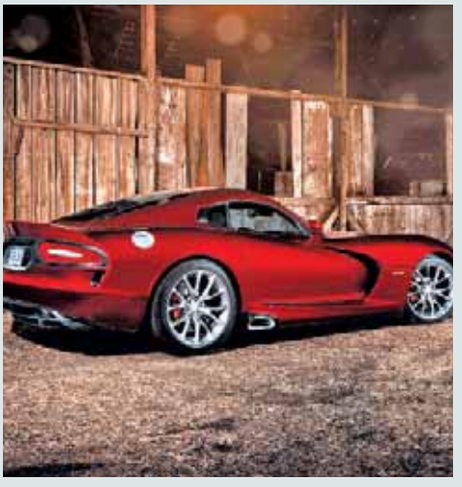
Subaru's 2.0-litre engine is at the heart of both, however. Interestingly, the fuel-injection is designed by Toyota. Rather rev-happy, it's rated at an even 200 horsepower. Manual and automatic transmissions are offered, each with six ratios.

Subaru's advertised vision for the BRZ is to bring "superior steering response" with the power of rear-wheel-drive and the balance of a sports car. The rear-drive layout — a first for Subie — and the relative lightweight of 2,690 pounds (1,220 kilograms) should help to reach that performance goal, along with a centre of gravity that's only at knee height.

5 SRT Viper

Back by popular demand — for a fifth generation — the 2013 SRT Viper no longer carries the Dodge logo. What did make it this time around is the V10 engine displacing 8.4 litres and cranking out 640 horsepower.

A true world-class two-seat sports car now — zero to 60 m.p.h. (96 km/h) in the mid-three-second range — the previous Viper chassis has been stiffened with an obvious X-brace under the hood. Carbon fibre in hood construction, high-end in-car technology and a 10-centimetre extension of the cockpit are just a few features added to this budget-busting machine that should start at about $120,000. Launch control, a full suite of electronics and a finely tailored interior all get the nod.



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A brave new (auto) world

Tech. Get ready for cars that listen, talk and act like a smartphone

The interior of a 2013 F-Series Super Duty pickup truck, equipped with Ford's high-tech Sync voice recognition system, is shown in this photo. HANDOUT

Don't expect to converse with your car quite like David Hasselhoff and KITT did in the '80s TV classic Knight Rider, but voice recognition is one of the big looming trends in the automobile industry.

For years already, some drivers who seek out the latest and greatest in technology have been talking to their cars when they want to listen to music, turn up the air conditioner or get directions.

No need to look away from the road or blindly reach for a knob or button, just speak a command aloud and the car obeys.

Voice recognition and other high-tech features are expected to become far more mainstream in the months and years ahead, as automakers race to outdo each other and tap into consumer demand for an app-inspired, always-connected lifestyle on the road.

CD players have been replaced by hard drives that can store tens of thousands of MP3s, or drivers can connect a smartphone and use its data connection to stream music via the Internet. Dedicated GPS navigation systems are being phased out in favour of multi-function digital panels that look like a smartphone or tablet homescreen, populated with a long list of apps.

"Automakers are trying to replicate that smartphone/touchscreen experience that people are used to and like," says industry analyst and consultant Doug Newcomb.

"Car buyers really want this, that's why automakers are doing it, technology really helps them sell cars."

Perhaps there was no clearer sign that companies are serious about competing to develop the coolest, most advanced in-car technology than an Apple announcement in June. The tech giant revealed it's working with nine automakers to integrate its popular voice-recognition tool Siri into vehicles.

Meanwhile, BMW and Honda are among the car manufacturers that are releasing new in-car technology in Canada this fall.

And at the forefront of the trend has been Ford, one of the more aggressive companies in delivering in-car voice technology to the mass market with its Sync product, which has already been around for about five years.

With Sync, drivers can press a button on the steering wheel and voice their desire to place a phone call, control the stereo, make their vehicle warmer or cooler, or get directions. Ford claims the system recognizes 10,000 different commands — although there's no master list available to consumers so that's difficult to verify.

"Our world is changing," Bill Ford, Ford's chairman, said at a recent press event in Dearborn, Mich.

"We've got over four million vehicles with Sync on the road today and what's cool is we have an open platform, so developers are developing apps for Sync. And we love that, that's why we did it."

Among those apps available for Sync in the U.S. are the audio streaming services Pandora, MOG and Slacker Radio, a program to listen to tweets posted to Twitter, and another that gives allergy sufferers an update on pollen levels in the local area.

Critics, however, have noted that Sync's ability to understand strings of spoken words is nowhere near as robust as Siri's. Drivers must learn how to speak to the Sync system, which often doesn't respond to natural speech and instead needs to hear a sequence of spoken commands to complete a task.

If your wording is a little off, you'll be prompted to try again. And don't even think of asking jokey questions like you can with Siri.

"It's getting better but it's still not there, it's still all over the map," says Newcomb.

"They're still in that learning phase, a growing pains phase."

The market leader in voice technology is Nuance Communications, which powers Ford's Sync. Gary Clayton, chief creative officer for Nuance, says the technology is constantly evolving and becoming more intelligent.

As of now, most voice recognition systems need to be prompted before they'll listen for user commands. But eventually, the technology will always be listening and will be able to recognize and distinguish between different voices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ford Focus on track to beat Toyota Corolla as world's bestselling car

The stylish and nimble Ford Focus is on track to unseat Toyota's aging Corolla to become the world's top-selling car, according to Ford.

The company says it sold 489,616 Focus sedans and hatchbacks globally in the first half of 2012, besting the Corolla by almost 27,000.

The Focus has several advantages, says Aaron Bragman, an automotive industry analyst for IHS Global Insight. It is newer, features better handling and styling, has superior technology and a much nicer interior than the Corolla.

"I'd rank it superior to the Corolla in pretty much most ways," says Bragman.

But Toyota isn't conceding the title. It has disputed Ford's numbers, saying its car is still on top when you include Corollas sold under other names. Hatchback versions of the Corolla are sold as the Auris in Europe and Matrix in the U.S.

Toyota also sells the Corolla Verso, a van-like vehicle that Toyota has traditionally counted as a Corolla, says spokesman Mike Michels. Including all the models, Toyota sold 603,840 Corollas in the first half, beating the focus by about 114,000, Michels says.

Toyota is working on a new version of the Corolla which is expected to go on sale next year, although the company hasn't made it official.

Ford made the announcement at its assembly plant in Rayong, Thailand, which opened in May to build the Focus. The plant, which is one of Ford's most advanced, has the capacity to produce 150,000 cars per year for sale in Thailand, Vietnam, Australia and other countries in the region.

The 2012 Ford Focus is pictured during its debut at the LA Auto Show in 2010. REED SAXON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ford's recently revamped Focus is sold in more than 100 countries worldwide.

It's a strong seller in the U.S., where Focus sales were up 31 per cent in the first half of the year compared with 2011.

But the Corolla is still king in the U.S., where it outsold the Focus by nearly 27,500 in the first half of the year.

The Corolla could still pass the Focus as the global top-seller this year, Bragman said. Toyota had few Corollas to sell at the start of the year because last year's earthquake and tsunami in Japan slowed its factories.

But now the car is back at full supply and selling well. Also, last year at this time the Focus was ahead of the Corolla, but the Corolla pulled through in the end, outselling the Focus by more than 100,000 vehicles.

"It might be a bit premature to declare a sales crown," Bragman said.

Also at the plant Friday, Ford executives were celebrating the production of the 350 millionth vehicle Ford has made since its founding 109 years ago.

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Grand Sport: Upholding 'heritage'

Auto Know. The best Corvette might not actually be the most expensive or the most powerful Corvette, but the most versatile

JEFF MELNYCHUK
Wheelbase Media

The Grand Sport is stanced properly thanks to the use of the Z06's wider body panels. GENERAL MOTORS

Velocity Yellow is an oxymoron.

Yet, here it is, slathered all over a Corvette Grand Sport driving a whopping 24 km/h on the 405 freeway in Los Angeles, Calif.. It's rip-your-hair-out frustrating. The car is just not meant for a five-lane, 30-kilometre-long parking lot like this. Heck, it's not even really at home plodding along at highway speeds.

Sure, it could do 280 km/h, it could corner like a rock on a string and stop with enough force to loosen your stuffed-up sinuses, but the simple question from your sensible significant other echoes in your head every time you're parked in gridlock or dodging potholes on some side street: "why buy a car like that when you can't even drive it around here?"

Corvette owners don't need to scramble for an answer. You can see it the way they grip the steering wheel. Buying a Corvette Grand Sport simply on hope you can stretch its legs once in while is justification enough for enthusiasts, who seem to live in an entirely different universe than people who believe a car is a mere transportation appliance. Mutter those very words to a Corvette owner and you're likely to be dining on knuckle sandwich for lunch.

And then there's the wow factor. The base Corvette is nice, but the Grand Sport adds the visual sizzle of the hyper-expensive 'Vettes: the wider rear fenders from the racetrack-inspired 505-horsepower Z06 model (six inches total increase in width); special wheels wrapped with wider rubber (more than 30 centimetres); and unique front-fender air extractors topped with Grand Sport badges.

Of course the name should add more sizzle. A lot more sizzle, actually. The prestigious Grand Sport handle was attached to several racetrack-only versions of the 1963 Corvette coupe. The GS was a renegade, built without official approval of General Motors with engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov putting the black-ops program together.

So, while the modern Grand Sport could be considered a mere option package that adds bigger brakes, wheels and some bodywork to the base Corvette, it means much more: there's a bloodline to maintain and real heritage to uphold. To that end, the GS can be ordered with a "heritage package" that includes two fender hash stripes that no other Corvette model gets. But what about substance under those stripes?

The Grand Sport model replaced the optional Z51 chassis package and includes goodies such as Z06-sized brakes and something called "active handling" that improves both ride and road holding. But the GS goes well beyond the Z51 since it visually looks much like the higher-priced race-track-inspired Z06, although mechanically the GS comes with a 430-horsepower 6.2-litre V8 whereas the Z06 comes with a 505-horsepower 7.0-litre V6.

Presto, the anonymous Z51 becomes its very own fully-fledged model called the Grand Sport. It's brilliant marketing, really. Taking a page from the Ford Mustang handbook, the Corvette is no longer just one car, but a niche of several separate and distinct models, ranging from a base car all the way to the 638-horsepower ZR1.

In ascending order of price, the Grand Sport, Z06 and ZR1 all began in another era, even if how they align today somewhat contradicts those very history books. ZR1, Z06 and Grand Sport might be a more logical running order, but that's obviously not how GM sees it.

The Grand Sport is therefore parked sort of at the halfway point between the base and the Z06, bridging some of the performance and price gap. But the controversy, of course, is that the Grand Sport name implies — according to history — that it's better than the Z06, which it isn't, at least in terms of all-out hairy-chested performance.

Frankly, as good as the Z06 is — one of the most capable performance cars in the world — the Grand Sport is just as capable of getting you into big trouble with the law while saving tens of thousands off the sticker price ... which you can obviously use to pay your speeding tickets.

The GS easily — E-A-S-I-L-Y — paints 33-centimetre-wide black stripes up and down the Sunset Strip and the optional two-mode "butterfly" exhaust unleashes a guttural bellow worth a bit more horsepower.

What else could you want? Oh, yes, the much maligned Corvette interior. If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times that the 'Vette's interior is lacking in style and refinement. The truth is it works just fine, but it is a let-down. Even the Chevy Equinox's interior looks, feels and works better.

To the rescue, however, is an optional grouping that includes excellent custom leather heated seats, highly detailed door panels, as well as a premium stereo, head-up display (vital signs such as speed and navigation details are projected onto the windscreen) and a power convertible top for the test car stuck here in L.A. traffic.

Of course, the original Grand Sport never came as a convertible. Neither did the Z06 or the ZR1, for that matter.

Despite history and what the purists think the Grand Sport name should stand for, it's not the quickest or fastest of current Corvettes, but few people out there could drive all three cars to the limit to find the edge, anyway. You're certainly not going to find out while crawling along the 405 at 24 km/h.

Critics usually knock the Corvette interior for its lack of style, detail and refinement. Maybe so, but it's actually comfortable. WHEELBASE

These high-calibre door panels are part of an optional package. WHEELBASE

A look at the engine. WHEELBASE

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Go the whole nine volts

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

If you're thinking you'd like your next vehicle to be electrically driven, you certainly have options. More and more major automotive brands are bringing out electric models (EVs) and plug-in hybrids (PHEVs).

But maybe you're thinking there's something not quite right about walking into a dealership and buying a brand new EV or PHEV. Maybe it gives you a funny feeling like Captain Rex Kramer had in the movie Airplane! You know, when he goes into the control tower to coach the inexperienced Ted Striker to land the plane, and a control tower operator asks him if they should turn on the search lights to make things easier, and Kramer says, after a few moments of thought, "No, it's just what they'll be expecting us to do."

In the same vein, you could do your own "180" and convert an old gasoline car over to electricity.

You could take something like a 1983 Porsche 944, rip out its gasoline-powered engine and related paraphernalia, and replace them with an electric motor, controller and batteries. You could do the same with a 1985 Jaguar XJ6.

You could pick any vehicle actually, but I picked those two specific models, because there happens to be actual examples of them recently converted over to electric drive. I met them, and their respective owners, at last weekend's EV Fest Electric Vehicle Show in Toronto.

Brian Kirk's white Porsche currently looks like a science experiment, but that's intentional. He would ultimately like his company, Singular Motion EV, to be in the business of converting customer cars over to electricity; the Porsche is essentially his calling card and real-life slide show on how one goes about electrifying a previously gas-powered automobile.

This Porsche is electric, thanks to Brian Kirk, pictured in photo at right, and Graham Lambert of Singular Motion EV. Their motto: Drive fast, drive green! CONTRIBUTED

He has over $20,000 invested in it already, and apparently it's fast — faster even than the original gasoline version.

"We wanted to prove the point that electric cars are not slow," says Kirk, adding that acceleration from a dead stop is "phenomenal."

"That's our reason for starting the company. We thought other people should be enjoying this as well."

He feels the current crop of EVs from the majors leaves a lot to be desired, when it comes to styling and performance options. He contends that conversion not only gives you limitless vehicle options, it also might save a perfectly good car body from dying in the scrap yard.

Don Singh's electric Jaguar has a similar cottage-industry look to the conversion. He too is able to convert cars and supply parts for potential customers (through his company, Epic Car Conversions). He says the Jaguar is currently both a test bed and an "office on wheels."

For others contemplating the jump, he would advise picking a "light" vehicle, to get more bang for your battery buck.

Whatever you pick, just make sure you plug it in. Brian Kirk failed to top up the Porsche before making the run from his base in Newmarket to the EV show at Toronto's Brickworks. He ran out of juice about five kilometres from the show. The CAA towed him the rest of the way.

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Top Gear

Burn rubber!

The automotive sector that powers the greater Detroit area has experienced some rough times over the past few years, but now appears to be returning to better health. To celebrate the workers employed by the Big Three and their subsidiaries, The Burn Rubber Sneaker Boutique located in the Detroit suburb of Royal Oak, in conjunction with New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc., has created the Michigan Workforce Pack. This brand consists of specially styled sneakers designed for Detroit's automotive employees. Although similar in appearance, the "blue collar" model features an orange sole with matching laces, while the "white collar" model uses a grey sole and black laces. Each pair sells for $150 US and can be ordered online at burnrubber.bigcartel.com.

Cordless winch

A winch is a handy item when you're heading off road and into unfamiliar territory. If you don't already have one bolted to your Jeep, or similar machine, consider getting the PullzAll from Warn Industries. This cordless device is powered by a 24-volt DC battery pack that can be charged using any standard vehicle outlet. It also has the capacity to lift or pull up to 1,000 pounds (454 kilograms), yet it weighs only 18 pounds (about eight kilograms) so it's easy to tote. The PullzAll lists for about $500 US (including two battery packs) and is available through hardware and specialty outlets throughout the United States and Canada, as well as various online resellers. For the complete list by region, head to warn.com. **WHEELBASE**

Umm, we're pretty sure cars aren't supposed to do that

Toro Rosso driver Jean-Eric Vergne loses control of his car during the Italian Formula One GP, at the Monza racetrack in Italy on Sunday.

ANTONIO CALANNI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GENERAL MOTORS

The last-generation GMC Jimmy was a 4x4 SUV model available to Canadian shoppers from 1997 to 2005 inclusive. Built on a truck frame and featuring a transfer-case based four-wheel drive system, it offered family-ready functionality and actual off-road workability.

Feature content included antilock brakes, automatic climate control, premium audio, an auto-dimming rear-view mirror, leather accents, heated power-adjustable seats and more.

Common Issues

Jimmy was affected by a number of well-documented problems that shoppers should be aware of. Several concern the durability of components like wheel hub bearings, suspension, steering and brakes. Have all of these items inspected by a mechanic before your purchase. Ensure the 4x4 system is able to switch between its various drive modes. A sensor or actuator motor may be to blame if it isn't. Also, any harsh shifting or 'slippage' from the automatic transmission should be taken as cause to move to another candidate.

Watch the fuel gauge to ensure it's not fluctuating rapidly while you drive. This could be the sign of a bad sending unit or fuel pump.

Engine

All models were powered by GM's 4.3-litre, 190-horsepower V6 which could be attached to a five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission.

What Owners Like

Owners like the truck-based feeling of toughness, capability and comfort. Most enjoy adequate performance from the 4.3-litre V6 engine. Towing capacity and looks are also highly rated.

What Owners Dislike

Fuel mileage, at-hand storage facilities, legroom and cornering abilities are among the most poorly-rated attributes reported by Jimmy owners.

Verdict

Reliability and trouble-free operation don't come off as the Jimmy's strongest assets. Capability and low purchase costs will be the biggest draws. A newer model with a mechanical thumbs-up is your safest bet.

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More power, less fuel: Diesels gaining popularity

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Once used mostly in trucks, diesel engines are showing up in several new cars and SUVs in Canada, primarily for their power and fuel economy.

"We got rid of all the negatives associated with a diesel, which is the black smoke out the tailpipe, the smell, and the emissions," says Sylvain Gilbert, manager of technical service, literature and ISO for Mercedes-Benz Canada.

Diesel engines differ from gasoline engines in several ways. They have higher compression, which creates more engine heat. This heat is used to ignite the fuel, unlike a gasoline engine that uses a spark plug.

When the diesel engine is cold, such as if the car has been sitting overnight, a glow plug inside it heats up to initially ignite the fuel. In the past, drivers had to turn the key and wait several seconds for the glow plug to warm up, but in today's diesels, the plug heats so quickly that diesels take no more time to start than gasoline engines.

Diesels produce more torque than gasoline engines, and do so at lower engine speeds, improving acceleration and towing ability. In many cases, a six-cylinder diesel will produce more torque than an eight-cylinder gasoline engine.

The Mercedes-Benz M-Class is available with a six-cylinder diesel engine.
JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

"Traditionally, if you think back 15 or 20 years, diesels were underpowered," Gilbert says. "Then they started to put turbochargers on them, and perfected the injector system, which improved the power and reduced emissions."

Because its fuel has a higher energy density than gasoline, and it isn't revving as high, a diesel engine gets better mileage. The diesel-powered Mercedes-Benz M-Class makes more torque than the six-cylinder gasoline engine, but is rated at a combined 8.9 L/100 km, versus 10.7 L/100 km for gasoline.

Diesel engines are built "beefier" than gas engines because they must withstand the higher compression. This, plus their turbocharger, usually makes them more expensive — the diesel M-Class is $1,500 more than the gas version — but their stronger construction means they traditionally last longer. The company estimates that 80 per cent of M-Class models sold in Canada have a diesel engine. "It's all about the low-end torque," Gilbert says.

"People brag about horsepower, but the bottom line is: what pulls you out of the hole and helps you climb that steep hill is torque."

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You are under a lot of pressure at the moment, but how much of it comes from other people and how much of it comes from yourself? Maybe you need to be a bit more relaxed about the world.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Don't plan anything strenuous for today because you need to relax, both physically and mentally. You may be a Taurus and more robust than most but you still need some down time now and again.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If there is someone you want to say sorry to then now is the ideal time. Venus in the communications area of your chart will make it easy to connect on both an emotional and a mental level.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You have a great deal going for you at the moment, so stop being so critical of yourself. Stand back from everyday events and see your life from a higher and wider perspective. It's actually a pretty picture.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Take life at an easygoing pace and ignore those who say you should be pushing yourself harder. There comes a point where what you put in is more than what you get out. You are near that point now.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you lack enthusiasm for what you are about to do, you will most likely make a poor job of it, so why not postpone it or even give up on it? You're allowed to change your mind you know.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may want to outshine your rivals and competitors but the planets warn that may not be possible today. It's always a mistake to compare yourself to other people. It's a sure way to drive yourself mad.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You know something that others do not, something that gives you an edge. Whatever that something is, you must be careful how and when you use it. Knowledge is power, so don't reveal it too quickly.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Friends and colleagues are aware of what you can do, so don't waste time trying to prove yourself. The important thing is not that others feel good about you but that you feel good about yourself. Do you?

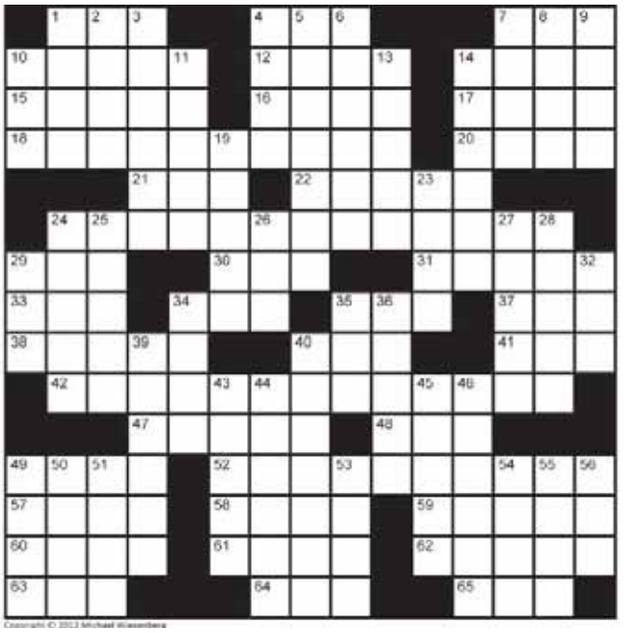
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If there is someone you want to impress, now is the time to speak up and let them know what you can do. But don't exaggerate your achievements to prove what a wonderful person you are. They know already.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Take your foot off the gas and take life at a more enjoyable pace. You don't have to work twice as hard and move twice as fast as everyone else. This is one of those days when less means more.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Those around you will respond better to kindness than coercion today. Also, if you can find it in your heart to forgive someone else's sins today they are more likely to forgive your sins tomorrow. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Island, Water, Rockers, More Water

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Windsor product
4. Volcanic fallout
7. "You're it!" game
10. Building usually without a 13th floor
12. Borscht vegetable
14. Flooring material
15. "Lord, ___?": Last Supper question (3 wds.)
16. Tomb Raider Croft
17. Prayer ending
18. ___ Island: the NE fifth of Nova Scotia (2 wds.)
20. "Mmm-hmm" (2 wds.)
21. Sink clog remover
22. Put together in makeshift fashion (2 wds.)
24. It's to Canada's east (2 wds.)
29. Former Pan Am rival
30. Open, as a keg
31. Airtight farm storage buildings
33. Acorn dropper
34. Hearing organ
35. Sum up
37. "A girl" or "a boy" preceder
38. Give up
40. *The Simpsons* bartender
41. Chomped
42. Rock band from Kingston, Ontario, that has received numerous Canadian Music awards, including 14 Juno Awards (2 wds.), with "The"
47. Assembly of church officials
48. ATM charge
49. Autumn colors
52. Ontario, Superior, et al. (2 wds.)
57. One of 52-Across
58. Thor's dad
59. Ctrl-P in many programs
60. Biggest problems of some celebrities
61. Ripped
62. Dispatches
63. Controversial hockey commentator Cherry
64. Scottish "no"
65. Hi-___: sharply detailed, as a monitor

Down
1. ___ Nostra
2. "Take ___ from me ...": "Heed this advice" (2 wds.)
3. Give another account of
4. Adequately skilled
5. Voyage on 24-Across (2 wds.)
6. Intrepid
7. Canada's quintessential coffee and donut place, familiarly
8. Downwind
9. DNA carrier
10. What not to say when taking a sobriety test
11. Tripoli's land
13. Ballroom dance for two
14. Nationalist Republic of China capital
19. Hertz __-_-Car
23. Southern California univ.
24. Anticipate
25. "Care" or "risk" follower
26. Carcinogenic cigarette smoke ingredient
27. A suspect may have one down pat
28. A dissatisfied diner may opt to leave this (2 wds.)
29. Play (with)
32. Former faster-than-sound jet: initialism
34. Boldly unconventional
35. "You've Got Mail!" ISP
36. Blue and white pottery named for a city in Holland
39. Damsels
40. Amber-colored Portuguese dessert wine
43. Bar of gold
44. Chicken ___ bleu
45. Sharp barks
46. One who listens
49. Bassoon or clarinet
50. As a result, in logic
51. Singer Celine
53. PEI's Green Gables girl
54. Cows, archaically
55. Finishes
56. Rds.

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	3	5				8		
			3	7				5
4					1			2
		4	2		3		1	
	6			5			8	
	2		8		4	7		
9			4					1
6				8	5			
		3				9	5	

Yesterday's Sudoku

Today
27°/17°
Sunny
Thursday
28°/17°
Partly cloudy
Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
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HURRY IN! OFFER ENDS OCTOBER 1ST

The 2013's are here early. That's the Power to Surprise.

$500 WINTER TIRE CREDIT[8]

0% —FINANCING ON— 2013** ON SELECT MODELS

+3 PAYMENTS ON US[¥]

kia.ca

HWY (A/T): 6.2L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.5L/100KM

Sorento SX shown△

2013 SORENTO

7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

$0 DOWN	OWN IT FROM $151≠ BI-WEEKLY	AT 0% APR	FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** $7,837 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,183 and **$1,650** "3 payments on us" savings[¥]. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $29,078.** Offer based on 2013 Sorento LX AT.

—OR— STEP UP

TO THE 2013 SORENTO 3.5 LX V6:

FOR AN EXTRA $18≠ BI-WEEKLY	AT 1.49% APR

FEATURES:
- SMART KEY
- PUSH BUTTON START
- 3.5L V6 276 HP 248 LB-FT
- 3,500 LB TOWING CAPACITY

$169 bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with $799 down payment. $8,664 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,183 and **$1,650** "3 payments on us" savings[¥]. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $31,678**. Offer based on 2013 Sorento 3.5 LX V6.

Forte SX shown△

2013 FORTE SEDAN

HWY (A/T): 5.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 8.0L/100KM

OWN IT FROM $96≠ BI-WEEKLY	AT 0.9% APR	FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS	$500 WINTER TIRE CREDIT*

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with $999 down payment. $4,933 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,888. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $17,883.** Offer based on 2013 Forte Sedan LX MT.

YOU CHOOSE 2013 RIO 5-DOOR

$0 DOWN	LEASE IT FROM $211§ PER MONTH	AT 0.9% APR	FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS

$0 DOWN PAYMENT. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,238. Offer based on 2013 Rio5 LX MT with a purchase price of $16,433.

—OR— $500 WINTER TIRE CREDIT*

2013 RIO 4-DOOR

FINANCE FROM 0% APR**	FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

Offer based on 2013 Rio 4-Door LX MT.

HWY (M/T): 4.9L/100KM
CITY (M/T): 6.6L/100KM

Rio4 SX shown△

5 Year Warranty* WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

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- Mobility Assistance
- Grad Rebate

see dealer for details

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KIA
The Power to Surprise

Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include licensing, PPSA or applicable taxes.

Offer(s) available on select new 2012/2013 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by October 1, 2012. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Your local dealer may charge additional fees for an administration fee that can range from $0 to $699. Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models on approved credit. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2013 Rio5 LX MT (RO551D)/2013 Rio 4 LX MT (RO541D) with a selling price of $16,083/$15,783 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable)] financed at 0% APR for 36/60 months. 78/130 bi-weekly payments equal $206/$121 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $16,083/$15,783. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ≠$500 Winter Tire offer is open to retail customers who finance or lease an eligible new 2012 or 2013 Kia vehicle from a participating Kia dealer between September 1 and October 1, 2012 inclusive. Eligible models include 2012/2013 Rio 4-Door and Rio5, 2012/2013 Forte Sedan, Forte Koup and Forte5, 2012/2013 Sorento and 2012 Soul 1.6 L AT or MT models. $500 can be redeemed, at customer's option, towards the purchase of a winter tire/tires for their new Kia vehicle, in the form of a cheque in the amount of $500 or as a reduction of $500 from the negotiated selling price (before taxes) of the new vehicle. Some conditions apply. See your Kia dealer for complete details. Offer ends October 1, 2012. ^Bi-weekly finance payment (on approved credit) for new 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD)/2013 Sorento 3.5 LX V6 (SR75ED)/2013 Forte Sedan LX MT (FO540D) based on a selling price of $29,078/$31,678/$17,883 is $151/$169/$96 with an APR of 0%/1.49%/0.9% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $7,837/$8,664/$4,933 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Offer includes $1,650/$1,650/$0 "3 payments on us" savings, delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,650/$1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ¥3 Payments On Us offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease a select new 2012 Soul 1.6L MT/2012 Soul 1.6L AT/2012 Optima/2012 Sorento/2013 Sorento from a participating dealer between September 1 – October 1, 2012. Eligible lease and purchase finance (including FlexChoice) customers will receive a cheque in the amount of three payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $350/$350/$400/$550/$550 per month. Lease and finance (including FlexChoice) purchases are subject to approved credit. Customers will be given a choice between up to $1,050/$1,050/$1,200/$1,650/$1,650 reductions from the selling/leasing price after taxes or dealer can issue a cheque to the customer. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends October 1, 2012. §Lease offer available on approved credit on new 2013 Rio5 LX MT (RO551D)/2013 Rio 4 LX MT (RO541D) is based on monthly payments of $211/$207 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), A/C charge ($100, where applicable) and $350 lease service fee] for 48 months at 0.9% with a $0 down payment/equivalent trade, PPSA, security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,118/$9,939 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $6,315/$6,194. Lease has 16,000 km/year allowance and $0.12/km for excess kilometres (other packages available). License, insurance, applicable taxes and registration fees are extra. Retailer may lease for less. See dealer for full details. ^Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento 3.5L SX AWD 7-seater (SR75XD)/2013 Forte SX Luxury AT (FO74XD)/2013 Rio 4-Door SX with Navigation AT (RO749D) is $43,045/$27,150/$23,450 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,455/$1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. ^ Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Sorento 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Rio5 1.6L GDI 4-cyl (M/T)/2013 Rio 4-door 1.6L GDI 4-cyl (M/T)/2013 Forte Sedan 2.0L MPI 4-cyl (A/T). These estimates are based on Transport Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada's *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Some conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate Program. See dealer or kia.ca for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation and Kia Canada Inc. respectively.